

# Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXVI No. 1 January 4, 1996

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

## Anti-Gay Measures Fail To Qualify in Washington

**T**wo anti-gay rights initiatives have failed to gather enough signatures to make it to the Washington state legislature in the near future, officials said Friday, December 29.

Under Washington law, collecting enough signatures on an initiative to the legislature directs the lawmakers to take one of three actions: They can enact the measure into law, ignore it and allow it to go to a statewide ballot, or approve an alternative and put both versions on the ballot.

The anti-gay rights measures sought to prevent the state from extending civil rights protections to homosexuals, and ban adoption by gays and lesbians. Gay rights activists took credit for defeating the signature drive through efforts to educate voters.

"Our campaign has demonstrated that the grassroots are the most powerful force of politics," said Jan Bianchi of Hands Off Washington. ▼

— United Press International

## Supes Postpone Vote To Defund Salvation Army

by Dennis Conkin

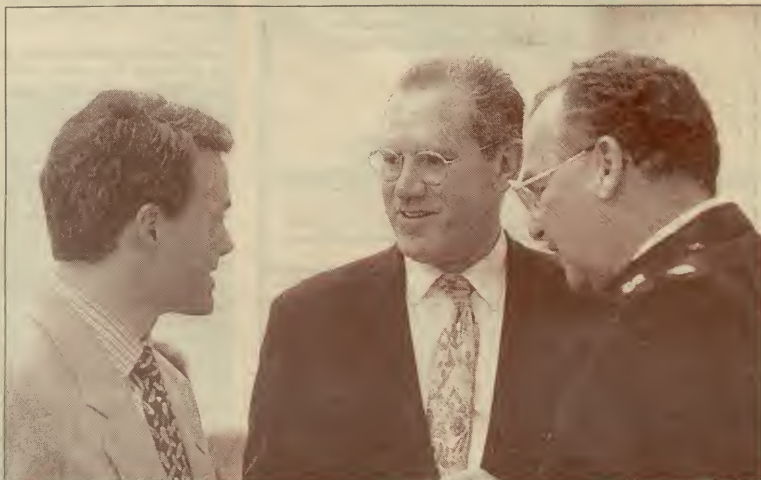
**T**he Salvation Army will have to wait until January 15 to find out if it will lose an estimated \$65,000 in federal housing grants because of its anti-lesbian and gay philosophy, after the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted January 2 to postpone a vote on the funding measure for two weeks.

Consideration of the funding measure was continued two weeks at the request of Supervisor Carole Migden, who said at the Tuesday board meeting she wanted time to review materials sent by the Salvation Army that arrived that morning.

The *Bay Area Reporter* has also learned that a transparent public relations ploy carried out by the religious social service organization may have seriously backfired, after church leaders showed up at the hearing with more than a vanload of program clients — including people with HIV disease — who receive Salvation Army social services, such as housing and alcohol and drug treatment.

According to many mental health and human service experts, involving vulnerable and dependent treatment clients or patients in political and funding disputes is

Continued on page 13



Migden aide Michael Colbruno (left) talks with the Salvation Army's Bill Wilkinson (center) and Major Jerry Gaines at the Jan. 2 Board of Supervisors hearing.

Photo: Rick Geharter

## Welcome Home, 'Baboon Boy!'

**J**eff Getty, the Bay Area PWA who received an infusion of a baboon's bone marrow cells December 14, is scheduled for release from San Francisco General Hospital Thursday, January 4.

Getty's doctors, led by Dr. Steven Deeks, theorize that cells from baboons, which are not affected by HIV, will strengthen the patient's own immune system.

In the meanwhile, because of the chemotherapy that preceded the infusion, Getty's risk of contracting dangerous infections has been heightened.

"This is an experiment that may not save my life," Getty said, "but could well lead to a treatment that will save thousands of others." ▼



Suddenly simian Jeff Getty.

Photo: Mary Ann Swissler

by Mary Ann Swissler

**T**he defense attorney for retired Marin County art teacher Phyllis Yvonne Robbins told the *Bay Area Reporter* his client pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter to avoid facing trial for first-degree murder, and said he will ask for leniency during sentencing.

David Wool told the *B.A.R.* Robbins still maintains the early morning assault that killed 71-year-old Barbara "Bobby" Wilson June 5, 1995 was committed in self-defense. Wilson invited Robbins, 67, to her house that morning, according to Wool, who said his client went to discuss her live-in relationship with 69-year-old Maurine Zwemke, who was about

to leave Robbins for Wilson.

Robbins did not bring a weapon, he said.

Paramedics found Wilson bludgeoned to death in her Mill Valley kitchen, with her skull broken in three places.

Robbins later admitted that she placed an anonymous 911 telephone call from a nearby phone

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## GLAAD Denounces CompuServe Censorship

United Press International

**W**illiam Waybourn, director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, condemned a decision by online giant CompuServe to block access to more than 200 newsgroups termed "sexually explicit" by the German government Friday, December 29.

Waybourn said the broad action has unfairly included several Internet sites dedicated to gay issues that have nothing to do with sex.

"It is very disturbing that non-sexually-oriented gay and lesbian newsgroups were lumped in with newsgroups that German authorities alleged contained child pornography and other pornographic material for adults," Waybourn said in a prepared statement. "If sexual explicitness is the issue, then it should be dealt with separately from gay and lesbian issues."

Waybourn said GLAAD would investigate CompuServe's action, and he questioned the real intent behind the removal of the newsgroups, "especially since any

CompuServe member with a modest knowledge of the Internet can view the newsgroups elsewhere."

According to GLAAD, the newsgroups that were deleted by CompuServe included sites such as soc.support.youth.gay, gay-net.international, gayjews, clari.news.gays, gay-net.coming out and alt.homosexual.

"These actions are wholesale censorship, plain and simple," Waybourn wrote in a letter to CompuServe President Robert Massey. "The net effect of censoring the newsgroups worldwide is chilling,

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Gun-Wielding Vagrant Reported on Castro

by Dennis Conkin

A homeless man on Castro Street aimed a revolver at a community AIDS activist after calling him a faggot on Christmas day, and then pulled the trigger, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned.

A police report was filed and Community United Against Violence was contacted about the incident. The weapon was apparently unloaded at the time of the confrontation.

The assault occurred at about 8 p.m. December 25, near the credit union building on the north side of the Market/17th/Castro intersection, according to activist Rob Sabados.

"I was walking to the intersection and there was this homeless guy. I walked by him. As I walked by him he pulled out this gun," Sabados told the *B.A.R.*

As the startled Sabados made his way past the man, whom he said is a regular at the corner, he heard a distinctive "Hey faggot," and the sound of the trigger being pulled.

"I was six feet past him, but I heard the hammer hit down,"

Sabados said.

Sabados immediately tried calling 911, but the first pay phone he made it to after the incident malfunctioned.

"All I heard was static," he said.

After Sabados found a functioning telephone and called 911, two officers arrived to take a police report.

"One of them was a trainee," Sabados told the *B.A.R.*, "and the other had forgotten to put on the fasteners, so his badge and nametag were falling off."

"I didn't get his name." But, he added, he was troubled by the way the trainee responded to the incident — and initially decided against telling the officers that his assailant made an anti-gay epithet.

"I decided not to make a point about the guy calling me a faggot," he said. "The training officer found the whole thing to be a joke. He just kept smirking and trying not to laugh."

"I told the officers that I lived in the Tenderloin and thought the Castro was a safer neighborhood than where I lived. I've found out that's not true," he said.

Sabados told the *Bay Area Reporter* he was also confounded when, after he filed the police report, inspectors at both the police hate crimes unit and general works bureau haven't been able to locate the report.

"No one's been able to find the case report," he complained. "But, they've said they know the guy. Supposedly he's a regular."

Although the police department requires police academy students to receive sensitivity training around lesbian and gay community issues, CUAUV executive director Lester Olmstead-Rose said the training needs to be constantly reviewed and reinforced.

Olmstead-Rose said the incident is a reminder that the great majority of anti-gay hate crimes reported to CUAUV are from incidents in the heavily gay Castro, Mission, and Duboce Triangle neighborhoods.

Sabados told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the incident has left its mark.

"I'm a lot more alert now and carry a can of mace. Effective January 1, a permit is not required for mace or pepper spray," he said. ▼

# Letter Hoax Appears In Castro Neighborhood

by Mary Ann Swissler

A scrooge who tried hard to put a damper on one Castro man's Christmas spirit quickly found out it will take more than the bah-hung message he sent through a normally peaceful residential neighborhood.

Casselli Street resident Paul Svedersky told the *B.A.R.* that he was the victim of a hoax letter-writing scheme by someone who forged his name on a homophobic and racist letter that was mailed to more than 20 of his neighbors.

San Francisco Police Department Officer Ray Austin, who patrols the Castro district, told the *B.A.R.* he hasn't heard of anything similar in the area. Moreover, he said he was surprised a sinister act like this would happen to someone living on that street.

Svedersky expressed relief that all of his neighbors believed him after he visited them to explain that the letter was forged.

"It's a great relief," he said. "If

you could imagine neighbors looking at you like you're a bigot ... It's an evil that I never experienced before." He added that he is not involved in any current political campaigns or causes, or anything else that might prompt someone to target him.

Svedersky said he discovered the letter while walking home for lunch from his job at a Castro travel agency December 26. A neighbor drove up to him at and said, "Paul, I don't think you wrote this, but what's it about?"

The entire letter was kept eerily anonymous, with no return address other than *Gays For A Better Neighborhood* appearing on each of the envelopes. Each of the letters was addressed to "Resident" and started off with "Dear Neighbors," before launching into a cesspool of name calling: "Don't bring your tricks down the street, your reheated hash, you nelly, loud and affected queens."

And that was the high-brow section. The anonymous author

went on to write, "Chink, Chicano and nigger lovers don't move in here ... help keep your property values up."

Svedersky commented, "It's worse than a practical joke, someone signing my name and my address to a letter that I know nothing about."

"It obviously was a sick joke," Casselli street resident Serafina Sands contacted the *B.A.R.* shortly after receiving a letter. "It's a little bit disturbing, since I live just three doors down," she said. "I've lived in Southern California and I've lived in Arizona, and this is really disturbing because we came back up here because we were sick of living around those kind of attitudes."

She said she called a gay newspaper to send a message: "Whoever wrote this letter should know that it's not okay for them to do this," she said.

Svedersky said he has reported the incident to the U.S. Postal Inspector, but there currently are no leads. ▼

# Pro-Choice for Males Discussed at Foreskin Restoration Seminar

by Mary Ann Swissler

Jim Bigelow, Ph.D. will speak on foreskin restoration and the trauma it can create, along with a description of surgical and non-surgical ways to restore a man's genitalia.

The 56-minute documentary presentation includes interviews with Dr. Dean Edell, anthropologist and scholar Ashley Montagu, Berkeley Jewish feminist Miriam

Pollack, and other men describing the intense psychic disfigurement caused by what the panel terms "male sexual mutilation."

The program is a chance to see those involved with a growing foreskin restoration movement, as well as the growth of "alternative bris" among Jewish families. Tickets are \$8.50 at the door. ▼



# New College Announces \$10K HIV+ Law Student Grant

by Dennis Conkin

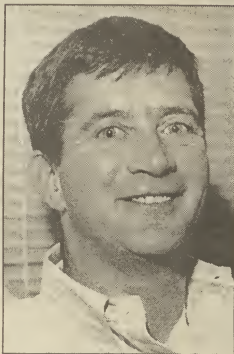
A \$5,000 award by Mobilization Against AIDS to establish a scholarship for an HIV-positive law student at New College School of Law will be matched by \$5,000 of work study funds and other financial assistance at the public interest law school.

The grant is the first of its kind in the country and is for a student who "will commit themselves to public interest and AIDS law," local AIDS activist and third-year New College student Bill Hershon told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Hershon said the grant has been in the works since last June and that the New College is committed to making the law school and its unique course of study accessible to people with HIV infection who may want a career in public interest law.

The grant is a one-time award, but Hershon said he hopes it will eventually become a full three-year scholarship to the school, through contributions from local law firms and lawyers.

"We hope it will become annualized," he said. "We're not going to have a person go through the first year of law school and not have the funds to finish all three years."



New College student Bill Hershon.

New College School of Law is the oldest public interest law school in the country. According to New College School Of Law Dean Chris Kanios, the school's goal in providing the matching financial assistance is "to provide support and empowerment" for a person with HIV infection who wants to embark on "a career of advocacy for the people and community infected and affected by HIV."

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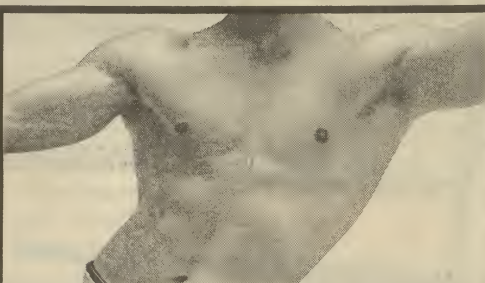


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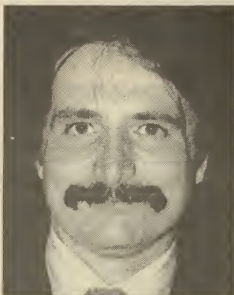
# Home Care Finally Gets More Than Minimum Wage

For the first time in over 20 years, home care workers in San Francisco will receive a wage increase that is not tied to the minimum wage.

There are more than 5,000 people who work in San Francisco going to the homes of people with AIDS, senior citizens, people just released from hospitals, and people who need help to survive. They have been doing the work for the minimum wage, \$4.25 an hour.

Special legislation was passed allowing San Francisco to go ahead with this historic wage increase, and the state has now set a timeline allowing distribution to happen in January.

Sal Rosselli, openly gay president of Health Care Workers' Union Local 250, gave details of the raise to many home care workers Thursday, December 28. Beginning in January, 1996, all in-home support service workers in San Francisco, both contract and



Local 250's Sal Rosselli

independent providers, will receive a 15% increase, or about 57 cents an hour.

For a full time worker, the raise would equal almost \$1,000 a year. ▼

- PRNewswire

## Correction

The following information was accidentally omitted from the story "Fund Established To Benefit Stabbing Victim," regarding George Drakulic, in our issue of December 21:

Anyone wishing to help George can send a contribution to: The George Drakulic Fund, c/o Bank Of Canton, Account No. 18-019-100, 555 Montgomery Street, San Francisco CA 94111-2574

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Oasis/California is a new ministry dedicated to serving Christ—and the cause of lesbian and gay liberation.

The guest speaker will be the Rt. Rev. Walter Righter. Bishop Righter is a national figure in the struggle for gay rights. Conservative forces have brought charges against him for ordaining a gay priest who is in a committed relationship. (Part of the offering will go to his defense fund.)

You'll also hear from the Rt. Rev. William E. Swing, Bishop of California. And from the Rev. Amy Lawrence, who is a lesbian, an ordained priest, and the president of Oasis/California's board. Other participants will include the Rt. Rev. Otis Charles, the only openly gay Episcopal bishop, and the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco.

Please join us to celebrate this new voice in the lesbian and gay community. A voice for equality, understanding, and compassion. Oasis/California.



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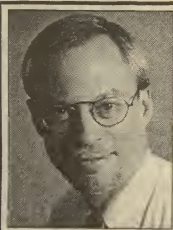
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# Lutherans Expel St. Francis, First United

by Dennis Conkin

Two San Francisco Lutheran congregations that ordained lesbian and gay pastors, in defiance of a denominational ban on sexually active homosexual clergy, were expelled from the 5.2 million-member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on Sunday, December 31, 1995.

The expulsions of St. Francis Lutheran Church and First United Lutheran Church follow five-year suspensions for the ordinations of the Reverend Phyllis Zillhart, the Reverend Ruth Frost, and the Reverend Jeff Johnson.

First United later called Johnson to be the first openly homosexual Lutheran pastor to head a congregation.

In an ironic twist, Bishop Robert Mattheis, the executive of the ELCA Sierra Pacific Synod, presided at St. Francis Lutheran Church's final Sunday service as a member of the denomination.

Draped in ecclesiastical finery and bearing the shepherd's staff symbolic of his office, Mattheis read a carefully-worded statement to the standing-room-only sanctuary crowd of more than 200 St. Francis congregants and supporters.

Mattheis reminded the congregation that, despite the expulsions, both the synod and the denomination had passed resolutions to "maintain the bond of fellowship with St. Francis and First United," and pledged to uphold the bond.

Later, though, Mattheis frankly acknowledged he did not understand the anger or outrage of the lesbian and gay community over the anti-gay religious abuse which led to expulsion of the churches.

"No, I don't understand it. I haven't felt it. It's not inside me," Mattheis told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

He said that the expulsions were consequences that logically followed the decision of the congregations to call and ordain a sexually active lesbian couple and a gay man to the ministry.

"When people take risks there are consequences," he said. "I feel some grief around this. Let's



Photo: Rick Geharter

Bishop Robert Mattheis reads the Scripture during the expulsion service at St. Francis Lutheran Church. He later commented: "When people take risks, there are consequences."

just leave it at that. I am connected to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and to the council of bishops. I am responsible to 65 bishops for what I say and think.

"I don't want to be irresponsible in that way," Mattheis said.

But in her remarks to the congregation, Pastor Ruth Frost clearly anticipated Mattheis's corporate-speak on behalf of the denomination; in an articulate and prophetic voice, she urged the members of St. Francis — and all lesbian and gay Lutherans and Christians — to continue to base their lives and actions on the Christian gospel teachings of hope and love.

"But hope is not found in religious organizations," Frost said, "and hope will not be found in the repentance or conversion of religious authorities."

"With our experience, the body of Christ is wrought again, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church is participating in its own peculiar self-mutilation."

"Today is a day of great shame," she said.

Frost, a brilliant theologian and pastoral counselor who graduated from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, said the congregations must "move on" with their ministries, knowing that they do not stand alone.

"We are no longer willing to

participate in our own oppression, and we know too well that silence equals death," she said.

Frost and Zillhart are the parents of Joy Noel, a two-year-old girl they co-parent with a gay male couple they met at St. Francis.

Pastor James De Lange, who has served as senior pastor of St. Francis since 1981, said in his remarks at the service that he encouraged the congregation 13 years ago to call the Reverend Michael Hillyer and James Lokken as ministers, and also encouraged the congregations to call Zillhart and Frost in defiance of the denomination's ban. He told the congregation he did so because in his 34 years as a heterosexual Lutheran pastor, he "tried to live [his] life by the call of the gospel rather than by the order of law."

Attending the service were members of other congregations and supportive clergy around the state and country, including Southern California West synod Bishop Paul Egerston, whose son Greg is a member of St. Francis.

Although the two churches lost their affiliation with the denomination, five other local Lutheran churches have invited members and pastors who want to retain the connection to become members of their congregations, while continuing to worship at St. Francis or First United. ▼

## Gay/Lesbian Bay Area Sierrans Mark 10 Queer Years

The Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Sierrans will mark ten years as a bona fide activity section of the San Francisco Bay chapter of the nationwide Sierra Club organization at a dinner on Saturday, January 20.

Tom Ammiano will be part of the scheduled entertainment celebrating a decade of service and

great hiking trips throughout Northern California.

The dinner will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Sinbad's Restaurant in the Embarcadero. The cost is \$25 per person.

For further information, call (415) 281-5666. ▼

— Mary Ann Swissler



# Episcopalians To Launch Oasis Gay Ministry

by Dennis Conkin

A retired Episcopal Bishop who is the subject of a church heresy trial for ordaining openly lesbian and gay priests will speak in San Francisco at a special Grace Cathedral service Saturday, January 13.

The service will formally launch Oasis, a new Episcopal ministry to gays and lesbians, according to the Right Reverend Otis Charles, the new ministry's executive director.

The principal speaker at the event, the Right Reverend Walter Righter, is the retired Bishop of Iowa who will face an ecclesiastical heresy trial in February for ordaining to the Episcopal priesthood a gay man who has a domestic partner.

Righter could be defrocked if found guilty of the heresy charges.

A portion of the funds collected during Saturday's 3:30 p.m. service will go to Righter's defense fund.

"The event is a celebration of the Diocese's commitment to lesbian and gay people," Charles told

Continued on page 23



Photo: Rick Gerhart

The Rt. Rev. Otis Charles, the only openly gay Episcopal bishop and the executive director of Oasis/California, the new gay and lesbian ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of California.

# Levy To Give Immigration Talk for G40+ers

by E.G.G. Allen

The issue of immigration was thrust into the limelight around the time California voters passed Proposition 187 in 1994, but public attention has died down since then. Now, according to Sidney Levy of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, a number of bills are being discussed in Washington that may increase the difficulty for people, straight and gay, who wish to immigrate to the U.S. in the future.

escape barbaric conditions from other lands.

The Venezuela-born Levy holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Jewish History from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, as well as an M.B.A. from Rennselaer Polytechnic Institute. Before joining IGLHRC this year, he worked in the Immigrant HIV Assistance Project of the San Francisco Bar Association.

His area of expertise may stem from his own history in "a family of immigrants," in which each of the last three generations has been raised on a different continent.

The G40+ Club is an organization of some 300 gay members over the age of 40, affiliated with the national group "Prime Timers." It holds twice-monthly

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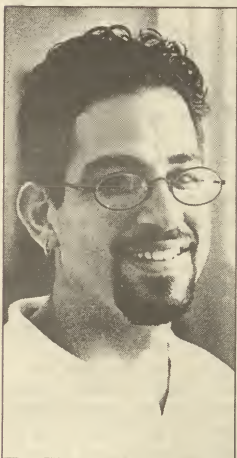


Photo: Marc Geller

IGLHRC's Simon Levy.

This Sunday, January 7, Levy will address the San Francisco G40+ Club on the topic "Statutes of Liberty: Immigration, Asylum, and Sexual Minorities."

Levy, director of IGLHRC's Asylum Project, will discuss current immigration policies in the United States as they relate to same-sex couples; people with HIV/AIDS; and people trying to

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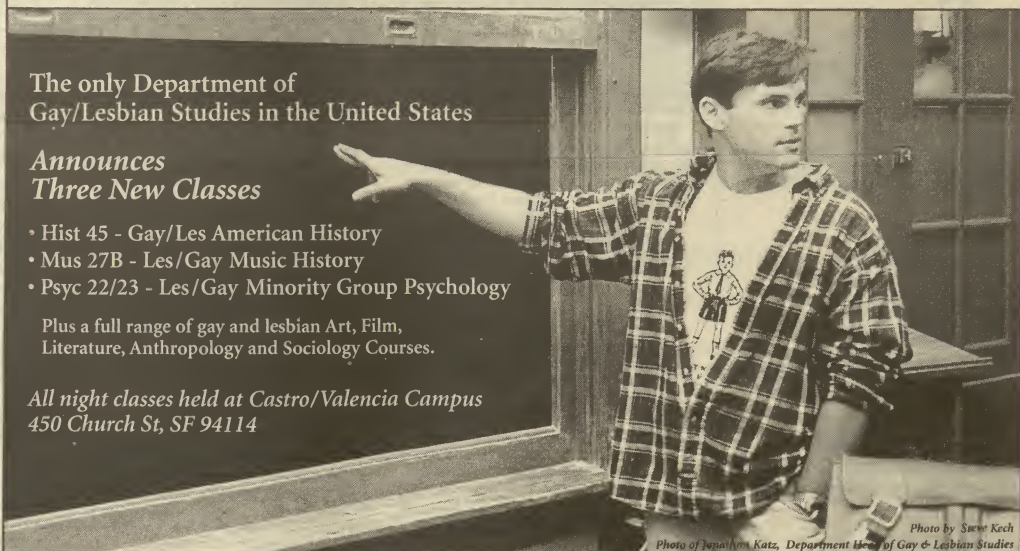


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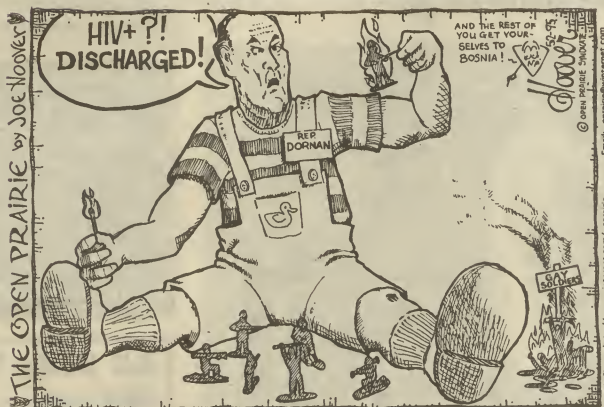
# OPEN FORUM

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## JOE HOOVER



## EDITORIAL

# Senseless Euphoria, Please

With so many problems in the world, and so many areas where a helpful word from a spiritual leader could conceivably make a big difference, Pope John Paul II chose the weirdest New Year's message imaginable for his flock. With all apparent sincerity, the Pontiff urged his faithful to avoid "senseless euphoria," an emotion he said was befitting pagans.

Once again, we have to differ.

Pagan or not, we love euphoria and consider it one of those things that separates us from what are often called "lower forms of life." And even after all our disagreements with old JPPII in the past, we were still stunned to find how much lower some fellow humans can sink when they get caught up in senseless religiosity.

New Year's is definitely a sensible time to indulge in euphoria—or it would be, if the reactionary forces around the globe would let up their attacks on the rest of us. That isn't exactly a reference to Bosnia (although it's applicable enough) as much as it is—once again, unfortunately—criticism of Washington politics these days. Dole, Gingrich, John Kasich, and Dick Armey (yes, the guy who told the press his public name-calling of "Barney Fag" was an accident that required no "psychoanalysis or second-guessing") continue to blame the president for the governmental shut-down that is terrorizing federal workers—and many of the rest of us—as if Clinton had the power to get it up and running again. In their own way, they are the enforcers of the Pope's ban on euphoria: the four horsemen of apprehensiveness.

What is interesting about the shut-down is that as the CDC remains mostly closed—as an influenza epidemic rips through the midwest, untracked—and embassies around the world face shut-downs, and "essential" federal workers are literally forced to work for no pay (isn't that a violation of the Constitution?), etc., etc., Bob Dole still managed to get the treasury to wire him millions of tax dollars for him to spend on his campaign.

He and Gingrich and Kasich and Shithead (oh, excuse us, we meant to say "Armey"—no psychoanalysis necessary, thanks) and the rest of the obstreperous lot in Congress are also collecting their regular paychecks, of course, even though they cannot/will not

do their regular "essential" jobs. What a waste of money.

A big problem, as we see it, is the lack of culpability faced by Republican lawmakers. That point was driven home this week with the announcement that former Reagan crony James Watt will face only one count—a misdemeanor, no less—in connection with his improper lobbying activities of a few years ago. In exchange for the one guilty plea (punishable by no more than six months behind bars, and we aren't exactly holding our collective breath for that) the government is dropping literally dozens of felony allegations.

So much for the GOP's "get tough on crime" stance. As always, the crimes they decry are not their own.

The reason we mention Watt, a person we had hoped would never intrude into our lives again, is because he is such a typical symbol of the Reagan years. His function, for those who have forgotten, was to use his job as head of the Department of the Interior to demolish environmental protections. Other Reagan appointees went to work trying to destroy civil rights and education and just about anything else they could mangle.

That's important, because it must not be forgotten that Reagan shredded the safety net and increased the national deficit like no other president. Now the same party that did the damage is blaming it on Democrats, saying it is liberals' fault the system is broken and the deficit is too high.

In a word, bullshit.

Unfortunately, just as Watt is getting off with his crimes as misdemeanors, so has Reagan gotten away (so far) with the damage he did. It is very distressing to see the media shirking their responsibility to remind people of the deficit's history, and that the war on poverty had a discernible positive effect until Ron and Nancy and their henchpersons screwed it up so badly.

The good news is that every passing day makes the Republicans look clumsier and more arrogant. Every day they lose points in the eyes of America and around the globe. Before the crisis is over they may have alienated a full 95 percent of this country's citizens and earned the contempt of real lawmakers in other countries.

Sorry, John Paul, but that sounds like our cue for some senseless euphoria in 1996. ▼

## GUEST OPINION

# Let the Tourists Come to the Castro

by Jim Anderson

The formation of CAPA, yet another group in the Castro, is above my head. I have attended a few of this group's meetings and have been amazed at the things they want to undertake.

The one really amazing thing, yet admirable, is to post signs on the new "F" Line stating that the Castro is primarily a gay and lesbian neighborhood. So enter at your own risk?

The fear that this new Muni line will bring into the area more tourists is allegedly the main focal point. Yet if one examines the rest of the projects, one can see some strong yearnings of "power trips" within this group.

The concern about more tourists is that more chain stores will want to relocate in the Castro. One can envision a huge Wal-Mart at the corner of Market and Castro, with an entrance from the Muni station into the "Giant White Sale."

I lived in the Castro for years, and now on Potrero Hill, yet I shop, eat and play in the Castro all the time that I am able to do so. Let the "F" Line come into the Castro, but no signs, as I believe that will bring even more tourists. Let us fight City Hall for the permits that any business is required to file. That experience alone will teach us the value of preserving not only the Castro, but the integrity and beauty that is ours alone in the world. If we learn the ropes of City Hall, then we are many steps ahead.

I cannot endorse a group such as the CAPA group. Their agenda is too large and all-encompassing and again speaks of control. They seem to have no realization that there are trained S.A.F.E. groups in the area, as well as a Fire Department-trained group that is willing and able to help after a disaster such as an earthquake. In fact, there is another group starting to train again in the Castro this coming February. The city and many people outside the Castro do care what happens to the area that adds so much fun and sadness to our "City by the Bay." We care, Castro, and will help when the time is ripe.

I am begging the merchants not to support this group *en masse*, alone maybe, as they will not help the future of our Castro. Let the masses come in, let them enjoy themselves and return to Ohio with some gay education. The citizens will help Castro fight City Hall to a showdown if another store of a chain wants to move into the area. Let us know. There are thousands of us "Out There" who read the *B.A.R.* every week, vote according to the *B.A.R.*, shop according to the *B.A.R.*, and enjoy "our" area. Do you really think that we are going to let the Castro go the way of 24th Street? Think again. ▼



## LETTERS

### Let the voters decide

Several important points were not raised by my colleagues in your December 14, 1995 article about the board's failure to place four alternative methods of electing members to the board of supervisors, developed by the Elections Task Force, on the March Primary Election Ballot.

I voted to place these choices before the voters. I do not agree that the lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender communities risk any real loss of political power through adoption of the district or alternative voting at-large methods proposed by the task force.

In fact, I believe that these creative proposals would offer opportunity for much greater diversity within the communities that we now have represented on the board. I feel it would be inaccurate to conclude that the voters could not consider these choices and make a reasoned decision.

As a teacher, I know talking up to students is how real education happens. The same is true of San Francisco voters. They have proved time and again far more perceptive than pundits and political consultants would have us believe.

Adoption of any one of the Elections Task Force recommendations would reduce the out-of-control cost of running for the board of supervisors. The full-time nature of the position could have been recognized. Board members could have been given a reasonable salary. I am also confident that whatever new method of election chosen by the voters would offer far greater opportunities for ordinary San Franciscans, neighborhood activists, working people, and currently unrepresented segments of the community to seek a seat on the board of supervisors.

I was very disappointed that the board failed to give the voters a chance to choose. It was a really "the Grinch that stole Christmas" kind of move. I remain firmly committed to getting this matter on the ballot at the earliest opportunity.

**Supervisor Tom Ammiano**  
San Francisco

### Lesbian & gay philanthropy

Thank you for your coverage on the \$31,000 awarded to local lesbian programs from Bay Area Career Women's A Fund of Our Own, administered by The Horizons Foundation. The B.A.R. is to be commended for consistently providing coverage of lesbian and gay philanthropy. The tremendous generosity of lesbian and gay people toward the health, educational, and cultural services of the Bay Area is seldom recognized by more mainstream charities, institutions, and media. Your article contributes to the overall need to showcase more philanthropic role models, especially for the younger generation in our community.

In celebrating those role models, we want to clarify some information for your readers. The Horizons Foundation, started in 1979, is the foundation for the local lesbian and gay community. Horizons raises money to benefit community programs through an annual campaign while administering a number of donor restricted funds, such as A Fund of Our Own. A Fund of Our Own was started by members of Bay Area Career Women (BACW) at the Horizons Foundation in 1989. BACW has accepted the responsibility each year since then to raise the money necessary to make grants available from the fund. The board and staff of Horizons applaud BACW's leadership and vision in creating this valuable resource, and encourage others to leverage contributions by creating similar partnerships with the foundation.

The Horizons Foundation and BACW encourage each member of the community to contribute annually to the full range of programs that specifically reach out and serve lesbian and gay people in the Bay Area. The Horizons Foundation can assist in identifying issues and concerns, and the community programs established to address those needs. Donors can call the foundation at (415) 398-2333 for more information.

**Doug Braley, Executive Director**  
**The Horizons Foundation**  
**Laurel Donoho, Chair**  
**BACW's A Fund of Our Own**

### Living Well appreciated

I am writing to publicly commend The Living Well Project for the extraordinary efforts they make on behalf of their clients.

The Living Well Project has worked closely with HIVCare, an HIV clinical trials program in San Francisco, to ensure that their clients have access to promising experimental AIDS treatments - and to the hope that comes with such access. When referring their clients to us for participation in a clinical trial, the Project has provided interpreters for their monolingual non-English speaking clients at each and every visit pertaining to the studies - including overnight stays when necessary.

This service is provided free of charge, regardless of the time commitment entailed.

In a time when press coverage of the work of AIDS service organizations seems to focus so heavily on shortcomings rather than strengths, I want to commend The Living Well Project for a job well done. Your commitment to those whom you serve has not gone unnoticed.

**Ellen L. LaPointe**  
Director, HIVCare

### Steering Healthy Sex

A recent promotional flyer, promoting The Playground, contained some misinformation. It stated that: "...we are not only members of the Coalition for Healthy Sex, but have actively taken on the task of managing that very important group."

In fact, The SF Coalition for Healthy Sex has never been managed by any single individual or group, as it is a community-based organization composed of club operators, health educators and consumers. It operates by consensus, and has a steering committee. No representative of the Playground is a member of the steering committee, or has ever been one in the past. Furthermore, the Coalition has never surrendered the management of its affairs to the Playground's owner, employees, attorneys or other agents.

The Playground's management has corrected the statement in a revised flyer. We hope that this will help dispel any confusion.

**Wayne Blankenship**  
**Jerry Zientara**  
**Steering Committee,**  
**SF Coalition for Healthy Sex**

### Dopey description

In her review of *Shanghai Triad*, the reviewer, Stephanie von Buchau, exhibited insensitivity bordering on racism and sexism in her otherwise interesting commentary. In her reference to the role of Shuisheng she used the description "dopey, unattractive teen sent from the countryside."

I saw and appreciated this latest film by Zhang Yimou. Is she an expert on what an Asian male should look like in order to be considered attractive by a smug non-Asian "expert"? I am sure that I am not the only non-Asian among B.A.R. readers to find the young actor, Wang Xiao Biao, to be quite attractive. That put-down was offensive and inappropriate to the review of the film. It would be more excusable if von Buchau were Asian (and in a gay publication, a male). As a gay male, I don't presume to be a judge of female attractiveness in the arts. I let my lesbian sisters determine that. As for being "dopey," maybe she should define her word. The fine young actor had a major role equal in its importance to that of the great actress Gong Li. Here was an innocent youth plucked from a village background and plunged into the violence and decadence of pre-war Shanghai in an environment characterized by degradation and ugly exploitation for greed. Any teen would believably react in the manner of Shuisheng. When is the last time that the reviewer had a chance to observe the degradation of our own youth on Polk Street at night? Would von Buchau have reacted differently had Shanghai been New York City and the youth African-American or European-American? Or if this exploited youth had been a female teen rather than a male one?

My only complaint with the cinematic genius of Zhang Yimou is that all his films exult in humiliation, suffering and degradation, and they always end in tragedy and despair. In this manner, he may just be playing to the gallery of intellectually cynical film reviewers and fashionable film festivals. We all realize that negative reviews are more entertaining than positive ones. But one should maintain a perspective: professional reviewers are almost never people who have contributed in any significant way to the art they criticize.

**Armand J. Boulay**  
Berkeley, CA

### M.I.R.A.C.L.E. delivers

The leather community opened its heart to children in need this year, donating over 600 toys to the M.I.R.A.C.L.E. (Make It Real, AIDS Children Live Everywhere) Toy Drive. The best news of the season was finding out that there are less than 100 children with AIDS in the Bay Area, so we could expand our distribution.

Thanks to the efforts of many this year, we received enough gifts to distribute not only to the three major pediatric wards in San Francisco (General, St. Luke's and Ca. Pacific), but also to some city shelters for women with children.

The final wrapping party, held Tuesday, December 19 at Eichelberger's restaurant, was a frenzy of activity as the community came out in force to wrap and label hundreds of presents while being serenaded by Empress Donna Sachet and Emperor Brian Benamati, who brought their "Songs of the Season" to the Sky Room as a benefit for the AEF.

Special thanks must go to Richard Hunter of Mr. S Leather and Mike of Mike's Night Gallery for their generous contributions. Each of these men donated hundreds of dollars worth of delightful toys to the drive. Thanks also to Steve Miller and Wes Ballard, who helped to coordinate the barrels and deliver the toys, and to The Clubs of the ICF, who designated beer busts and other events to the drive. Alan Selby, Linck, and Dick Manning must be recognized for the special energy that each, in their own way, contributed to making the toy drive what it was.

The leather community united has always been a major force for charitable works, and this year's event showed once again how much we care.

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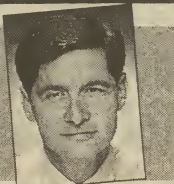
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## LETTERS

### They can't all be winners

The theme for the 1996 San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade has been chosen, and the chosen theme is "Equality and Justice for All." Doesn't that make your heart beat just a little bit faster?

The winning slogan barely beat out its nearest rivals, "One Nation with Justice and Liberty," "Liberty, Justice, Indivisibility," and the simple yet inspiring "Let Equality Ring."

Unfortunately, not all slogans can be winners or runners-up. Lagging just behind the leaders were slogans such as "Catch the Beat/No Retreat" and the equally zingy "Out and Equal on the Job." These slogans were contenders but were judged to be too unlike the Pledge of Allegiance to make the final cut.

Trailing well back of the front-runners were a slew of also-ran slogans. None had the staid predictability needed for serious consideration, so these less-than-sure-fire slogans were eliminated early on.

Still, every contribution deserves recognition, so here are the Top Ten Officially Rejected Slogans for the 1996 Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade:

#10: • *Coming Out Behind You America!*

#9: • *Straights to Hell!*

#8: • *Don't Knock It If You Haven't Tried It*

#7: • *Bringing Up the Rear*

#6: • *We Want Your Children*

#5: • *Homosexuality - It's Catching!*

#4: • *It's Partly In Our Genes*

#3: • *Squirmy Heteros Squirm*

#2: • *Bend Over, America!*

...And the #1 Rejected Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade slogan:

• *Please Don't Selectively Abort Us*

**Barry Spencer  
Berkeley**

### Gays not 'accepted'

Re "Gay-Friendly Churches Recap Million Man March," (11/30) I feel moved to share my comments, and hopefully enlighten some of your readers who think of church as a four-letter word. Having been involved with some of the pioneers of the Gay Movement, long before Christopher Street, and being fairly well acquainted with history, I'd say it's a well-known fact that much hatred and slaughter has resulted in the "name of the church." Although I was Troy Perry's first secretary, and I loved the man and his mother dearly, MCC did not fulfill my spiritual needs. Shortly after I moved to San Francisco, I learned about the Church of Religious Science (and I'm not referring to Christian Science). People involved with New Thought Churches such as Unity and Religious Science do believe in doctors. When I moved back to Glendale while Lowell [Hauser, the writer's lover] was completing chiropractic school, we both started attending the Glendale Church of Religious Science.

And what I want to point out is from all my experiences in New Thought Churches, gays are not "accepted" and those churches are not "gay-friendly." People of all persuasions, colors, sexes, are welcomed. And there is a big difference! It's not 'we' and 'them,' it's us.

You're invited to join us at 11 a.m. on Sundays at 34th & Balboa in S.F., and I encourage you to check out New Thought churches in your area. My minister is an African-American retired Army Colonel who will not try to convert you, but his wife Wilma's delicious goodies served after church may win you over. Our services are always concluded with the song "Let There Be Peace on Earth, And Let It Begin With Me." At a very stressful season, I'd like to share what Reverend Bill Bullard quoted at his ordination: "You and I, we meet as strangers, each carrying a mystery within us. I cannot say who you are; I may never know you completely. But I trust that you are a person in your own right, possessed of a beauty and value that are the earth's greatest treasures."

"So I make this promise to you: I will impose no identities upon you, but will invite you to become yourself without shame or fear. I will hold open a space for you in the world and defend your right to fill it with an authentic vocation. For as long as your search takes, you have my loyalty."

**Glenn Schmolli  
San Francisco**

### Whine tasting

If San Francisco is the gay land of milk and honey, why is there so much pissing and moaning going on? Upon arrival each time I visit I hear the same whine, whine, whine. Here's some of the most constant quotes:

"I fear getting old: I want to die young so I won't be a troll." Sugar, look around; a lot of people are passing on and would gladly trade places with you. Life really is what you make of it.

"My body's not hot-looking enough." The last time I heard this whine was in Blow Buddies. Six years ago I joined a gym, now I've got muscles. People do what they want to do. Some pump, some whine.

"Moving to S.F. didn't get me a better job, better lover, better (fill in the blank)." Expectations are one thing, but if you weren't making it in Timbuktu, there's nothing saying a gay ghetto's going to change things.

**Ron Sapp  
Dover, Delaware**

### Passing judgment

[The following is an open letter to Mr. Samuel N. Suthard, Sr. Captain/Administrator, The Salvation Army, San Francisco:]

The Salvation Army's position statement on homosexuality should be a clear, logical, and coherent document that teaches and promotes love and acceptance, but it is not. Instead it is a mixture of innuendoes, judgments, interpretation, and rules for acceptance.

The opening words state, "The Salvation Army is vitally concerned with strengthening family life." What a broad statement on which no one would disagree, for what strengthens family life more than love, acceptance, promotion of self-esteem, and cooperation of members within the family unit. The underlying innuendo is that these qualities exist only in heterosexual and not in homosexual relationships. There is no evidence to support that kind of conclusion, yet the Salvation Army uses this kind of logic to condemn and pass judgment.

Contrary to the spirit and teachings of Jesus Christ that only the Father in heaven should make judgments of people and their acts, the Salvation Army has taken upon itself to pass judgment and to condemn the lives of an entire group of people by asserting, "Homosexual behavior...presents a serious threat to the integrity, quality and solidarity of society as a whole." Nowhere in this position paper or anywhere else, for that matter, is there any evidence to support such a wild and prejudicial statement. Yet, it is on this mistaken belief that the Salvation Army continues to condemn and pass judgment.

The assertion that homosexual behavior is contrary to the teachings of the Bible is one interpretation. Homosexual Christians, however, (yes, there is a place in Heaven for Homosexual Christians) find both in the Bible and in their personal relationship with God, complete spiritual support for their innate tendencies and homosexual acts. Which interpretation is correct? Again, Jesus of Nazareth answered that the Father in Heaven would make the final judgment. Yet, the Salvation Army continues to condemn and pass judgment of its own.

The position statement clearly outlines the requirements for membership as a "Salvation Army soldier." In America, it is not against the law to discriminate against a person based on that person's sexual behavior, clear and simple. And so, the Salvation Army continues to legally condemn and pass judgment.

Finally, the Salvation Army's position of judging and condemning a person's private sexual behavior based on unsupported assertions and a particular interpretation of the Bible is in no way treating that person with respect or dignity. In fact, it is the antithesis of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

**Earl Frick  
San Francisco**

### Seeing the (Harbor) Light

As a gay, HIV-positive male in recovery, I have utilized the Salvation Army's recovery services located at 9th & Harrison at their Harbor Light complex. This includes their HIV care 21-day detox program on several occasions.

The staff at Harbor Light is multicultural, HIV-positive and -negative, straight, gay and lesbian. Period. Never have I ever been made to feel "less than" by any staff member for being gay or HIV. Never.

The Salvation Army as an entity may have a pro-Christian, anti-gay opinion. So what? From what I have personally observed. They do not discriminate based on that position, with their clients or in hiring.

Are we that insecure as a community that "if you ain't for us, you're against us"? As gays and lesbians, aren't we the ones who are always squawking about free expression? Sure, everybody's for free expression until the other guy gives his. (Please!)

Fact: a lot of straight and gay, positive and negative, addicts and alcoholics didn't die this year because of the Salvation Army. Instead, they got to see Christmas and a new year. What a gift!

**Timothy Samuels  
San Francisco**

### Happy trail(er)s

As residents and homeowners of a mobile home at the Franciscan Mobile Home Park in Daly City, we were hurt and a little demoralized by a statement in Mary Richards's article "Twelve Gays of Christmas," which appeared in the December 21 issue of the B.A.R. To quote Tony Wells from the MCC church in describing a Douglas Fir Christmas tree as "a white trailer park trash tree" is insulting and dehumanizing. Of all papers, the B.A.R., knowing full well the pain of discrimination, should have known better than to print such a statement. There is a rather large group of gay and lesbian residents here at the Franciscan who just ask for the same level of respect given to others. We feel an apology is in order. Thank you for listening.

**Mike Pintel  
Ed Balduck  
Daly City, CA**

[We apologize unreservedly.]



# Friday's Forecast

The California Legislature, returning to work this week after a long recess, will probably experience yet another year of political infighting, with some unfamiliar faces emerging as Capitol players. Considering the certain jockeying for position among Assembly Republicans, the first real impact of term limits hitting the Legislature and Governor Pete Wilson's desire to rebuild his image as a powerhouse after his abortive presidential campaign, Sacramento devotees can expect nothing less than fireworks.

When all-powerful Democratic Speaker Willie Brown left the Sacramento scene (for the most part) last year to concentrate on the San Francisco mayoral race, the Assembly erupted into chaos. The wily Brown ensured continued Democratic control by engineering the election of a friendly female Republican, Doris Allen, as his successor, only to watch her recalled by the voters in her district, toppled as speaker, and replaced with yet another renegade Republican, Brian Setenich, an unknown from Fresno.

Setenich was also elevated to the speakership with the help of Democrats, thereby making him a definite target of the more conservative Republicans as the Assembly reconvenes this week.

We can now expect a dirty intra-party squabble between Speaker Setenich and ultraconservative challenger Curt Pringle. This one should translate into smiles on the faces of Assembly Democrats, perhaps into the spring.

Term limits will make the November election for both the Assembly and state Senate a bit of a tossup. Will the GOP be able to retain their slim Assembly majority, 41-39, their first since 1970? Or will their infighting help the Democrats regain control of that august body?

The Senate now has 21 Democrats, 16 Republicans, two independents and one vacancy. Will the Democrats keep their majority in this somewhat more stable group, assuring that East Bay President Pro Tem Bill Lockyer will finish out his final two years?

Of local interest, with Willie Brown set to take over at City Hall next Monday, his seat will likely be filled after the March election by lesbian Supervisor Carole Migden. The other city Assembly seat, being vacated by John Burton due to term limits, looks like it has Kevin Shelley's name on it come November.

State Senator Milton Marks will also be termed-out this year. Democrats in the March primary will choose between John Burton and Supervisor Angela Alioto to see who goes on to do battle in November.

San Francisco's other state Senate seat (SF and San Mateo counties) is held by Independent Quentin Kopp and will be up for grabs in 1998. Another Assembly seat, the 19th, now held by Assemblywoman Jackie Speier, also takes in a portion of the city. A tussle between Daly City Councilwoman Madolyn Agrimonti, Hillsborough businessman Dave Mandelkern and former Assemblyman Lou Papan is shaping up to see who takes on Republican James Tucker in November.

My New Year's predictions (and if I'm wrong no one will remember anyway): If Bob Dole is the GOP nominee, his veep pick will be Colin Powell. If Texas Senator Phil Gramm is the pick, he will name California Attorney General Dan Lungren as his running mate.



The way we were: Migden (left), Shelley (center) and Achtenberg before their swearing in as supes five years ago. Our crystal ball sees Carole filling the expensive shoes of Willie Brown in the Assembly and Kevin doing likewise for John Burton. Roberta's future is veiled in clouds.

While Willie Brown takes over at City Hall, there are other California mayors to watch as well: LA's Dick Riordan and San Diego's Susan Golding, both Republicans, and San Jose's Susan Hammer, a Democrat. Hammer is reportedly interested in a statewide office.

## Commentary

Incidentally, some of my gay political tipsters in LA are telling me that state Senator Tom Hayden, a Democrat, will emerge as the main opponent against Riordan in the '97 nonpartisan race there.

Pretty but dumb: "Gorgeous" George Stephanopoulos, the White House's most photogenic bachelor, was on *Meet the Press*, agreeing with the Christian Right's homophobic leader Ralph Reed that indeed "the moral climate in America is healthy." George added that he believed "Democrats may have gone too far" in the past in separating church and state. Excuse me, George. You are cute and everything, but isn't that one of the principles our government was founded on?

While San Francisco was busy electing its first-ever African-American mayor, Gary, Indiana, a city with an 80% black population and an equal amount of registered Democrats, elected its first white Republican mayor in decades. A good sign in all of this somewhere!

A recent Field Poll shows Bill Clinton leading all GOP contenders by up to 22 points in California, where he always seems to have been popular.

Some checkbook Republicans are so pissed at San Diego's Convention Center being chosen the site of their August convention that they are still trying to find an alternate spot. The Convention Center is, in fact, quite small for a national political confab. The ceiling in the place is so low that organizers are talking about having "balloon rises" instead of the traditional "balloon drops." The vice-presidential nominee's speech may be delivered in an adjacent park to give some of the 30,000 people (and the already grumbling media) a chance to see part of the event.

One GOP bigwig, Mike Christensen, seeing the place for the first time last week, snapped, "It looks like where you have a Rotary Club annual banquet, not where you have a national political convention." What the hell, with Clinton's current numbers, maybe it doesn't really matter where in California either party holds its convention.

Homophobia roll call: In Austin, Texas, the American Family Association, a homophobic Christian group, says it will step

up pressure on advertisers of the gay publication *Texas Triangle* by announcing their names on a radio show. In Maine, state Senator Dale McCormick says she's withdrawing her gay rights bill because of heavy organized opposition, but may raise the issue again in the future.

Too little, too late dept.: Hollywood comedy actor Jim J. Bullock, the former *Too Close for Comfort* sitcom star, told the world via an *Entertainment Tonight* appearance last week that "the hinges on my closet door have been blown off," adding that he's gay and proud of it. "It's who I am. I can't live a lie. I don't want to live a lie. I've done that," said Bullock, who was earnestly plugging his new talk show with ... Tammy Faye (Bakker) Messner! Perhaps Tammy Faye's ex-husband, Jim, and Jim are planning a special show on former closet cases who only come out to spark interest in their sagging careers.

A tip of the hat to Aunt Charley's bar on Turk Street, where the bartenders put up a small tree on Christmas and the customers decorated it with dollar bills, collecting over \$500 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Let's hope the AIDS breakthrough we are all praying for happens in 1996! ▼



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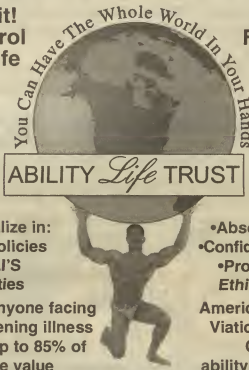
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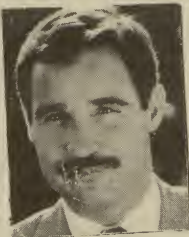
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# Ballad of a SAD Cafe

by Beth Elliott

**H**appy New Year, Readers! I hope you all not only survived but enjoyed the holiday season — no dysfunctional family Christmases, no Seasonal Affect Disorder, no over-doses on holiday cheer (or holiday spending). Myself, I could have done without the rare case of The PMS From Hell the week before, but it comes with the territory when you're an estrogen-based life form. (I could also have done without my women friends saying, in response to my griping that I usually just get a little emotionally unbalanced, "As compared to what?")

I did end up having to grapple with a personal demon or two — and kicking their butts, as usual. I figure if I'm going to feel down, I should nudge the feeling carefully until it topples over into the rut of some old, familiar and comfortable angst. Then I can tell myself, "Oh, it's that silly feeling again"; even if I wallow to my heart's (dis)content, I'm never really tempted to take it too seriously. Demons hate that.

After that, I went ahead with joining friends in celebrating the season. No use moping when you can laugh and hug and reminisce with people you love. Let's face it, winter solstice festivals of light that convey uplifting ideals are fun. Demons or no, I happily ended up going through the cycle: Hanukkah, Solstice, Christmas, Kwanzaa. The common threads of human culture, our links to natural Earth cycles, lots of good munchies — works for me!

What actually summed up The

Holidays '95 for me, though, was the article in the *Examiner* asking whether Kwanzaa had gotten too commercial. Uh-huh, I thought, we're still living in America.

## Absolutely clueless

Then there was all the hullabaloo about the F Market streetcar bringing tourists to the Castro — not very flattering to a community in which the word "xenophobic" has been thrown around for a year and change. (Uh-oh, I feel a cheap shot coming on.) Invasion by outsiders? As compared to what? Question: What's the difference between the tourists taking the F Line to the Castro and the people protesting tourists in the Castro? Answer: The tourists wear funny clothes and are clueless; the protesters wear rainbows and pink triangles and are clueless, but think they're faaaabulous.

## Commentary

Which is to say, given that being queer and moving to San Francisco (from the same places as the tourists come) in order to reinvent one's self has become some kind of cultural archetype, methinks quite a number of the transplants doth protest too much. Michael Botkin had it dead-on right: more tourists in the Castro means more kicks from freaking out said tourists with more same-sex PDAs. People, where is your perverse sense of humor?

I do realize people gawking instead of unobtrusively letting their horizons become expanded (Provincetown syndrome?) is tiring; I don't mind anyone having NIMBY sentiments on this one. When in the Castro, I, too, would like straights to be good or be gone.

On the other hand, I seem to care a lot less about having a "turf" than having good, friendly, and gay or gay-positive people around me *wherever I go*, not just when I'm in the gay district. Maybe it's that having lived as a lesbian in post-Stonewall America for a quarter century now, I know intellectually it's a thrill to wear a rainbow pin, and walk down a street where rainbow pin people are the majority, for the first time. But how long can you do that? At some point, it can only feel like a big deal every once in a while. What do you do after you make your entrance?

## Shift in semantics

I've noticed a subtle shift in the terminology being used to refer to people's coming out, especially terminology used by mainstream media. It used to be something along the lines of "acknowledged her lesbian orientation." Now it seems to be more uniformly "accepted her lesbian identity." So, I'm going to play at false naïveté here and ask what identity has to do with it. "Accepting an identity" implies that identity existed of itself before you had the clue to say, "Oh, I must be one of these!" That it's a real thing regardless of whether you consider it your identity (or even an accurate description). That pigeonholes you regardless of whether that one attribute comprises your whole life and sense of self, or is just an important part of this complete breakfast.

Obviously, I find it important to take some part in community (and rights struggle); otherwise, I'd no doubt have gotten bored with writing from a lesbian perspective long ago. But my interests and friendships don't fall into neat little boxes. It's not enough for me just to be a member of a few queer categories; there's a whole world out there with cool things to see and do and taste and hear. If I can only explore them in the company of other queers, then any experience of them is going to focus on the "Hey, it's queers doing this!" part, amidst which the experience itself might get lost.

People discovering how free they can be will always be part of the community experience. But enshrining "identity" as our defining feature makes us static, two-dimensional — and makes participation in community a cult-like, all-or-nothing proposition. It's time to act like we're here for the long haul, as a community of people who grow and become multifaceted. Life is change; that is how it differs from the rocks.

It's very trendy to act as though we're on the verge of total destruction — to go along with the religious right's wishful thinking. But guess what — if we win marriage in Hawaii, they will never have an officially Christian America. HIV affects a minority of the gay/lesbian/etc. community. As we wear them down by our stubborn refusal to go away, let's remember to have lives, okay? See you out and about in the big, cool world in '96! ▼

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## Marin Murder

Continued from page 1

booth after the killing took place, claiming that she was Wilson, and that she was having a heart attack.

Robbins has been unable to post a \$1 million bail and has remained in the Marin County Jail since her arrest. Wool said sentencing is scheduled for February 27, at which time he will plead for leniency.

"She's had 67 years without even a single jaywalking ticket; this is just an unfortunate and tragic incident," he said. "Clearly she's not a danger to society. It was an anomaly in an otherwise extraordinarily gentle life." Since her imprisonment, Robbins was made a trustee, a position given by prison officials to model prisoners.

## Enhanced Circumstances

Wool told the B.A.R. that Robbins finally chose to plead out the case because it seemed less risky than taking a chance on first-de-

gree murder charges. "Even though we didn't feel that the prosecution could prove first degree murder," he said, "I've been in trial enough times to know that it's a real dice roll," to plead not guilty.

"This time she'd be looking down the barrel of first-degree murder."

Unfortunately for his client, Wool explained, he believes the prosecution will argue for the maximum penalty because of enhanced circumstances — the victim was over the age of 70, and a weapon was used.

Wool said that the prosecution has not offered any maximum sentence guarantee in exchange for the guilty plea, and that the final decision — of three-year mitigated, six-year midterm, or 11-year aggravated — is up to the judge.

Robbins would be eligible for parole eventually, no matter what sentence she receives. Wool said he expects prosecution to argue for aggravated, which would essentially be a life sentence for his client. ▼





Baby talk: Stephanie Brill (center) and Kim Toevs (right) discuss the birth process with a client at left.

## Maia Midwifery Makes Mark for Marginalized Moms

by Mary Ann Swisler

Two Berkeley women, Kim Toevs and Stephanie Brill, have formed Maia Midwifery, a service aimed specifically at the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered population. They say they hope to operate Maia, named after a Greek fertility goddess, as an "A to Z" service that will start from preconception through birth and then beyond.

Both women have been practicing home midwives for over three years, Toevs told the *B.A.R.*, but in the past year they have focused on pre-conception counseling and on planning their company.

"We're really committed to women's healthcare," she said, "and for healthcare not to be a disempowering experience."

"It started out as a natural extension of working around women's reproduction issues," she said, at the Berkeley Free Clinic, Planned Parenthood in Richmond for many years, and as an HIV counselor at a number of different places. "And that's what led me into working with birth—and once I attended a birth I realized that was a whole new field opening up to me," she said.

"We've both come to midwifery through apprenticeship programs," Toevs continued. "I got trained as a labor coach through other midwives. ... Stephanie had her baby at home in a cabin. She approached it through studying a lot of herbal medicine, relationship skills, and women's spiritual work."

"All those skills are more important, I think."

"Fundamentally," she told the *B.A.R.*, "my approach to midwifery is that I am autonomous, and it goes hand-to-hand with my belief that women get to choose where they birth and how they birth and with whom they birth."

Despite a few lesbian-friendly sperm banks and obstetricians in the Bay Area, the two believe there's much more work to be done. "We strongly believe that non-judgmental pre- and post-conception services are greatly lacking in the gay community," Toevs commented. "We are committed to changing that, both through the community education programs and individual services that we offer."

### No sperm for lesbians

Sherron Mills of the Pacific Reproductive Services sperm bank in San Francisco agreed with Toevs's assessment. "A lot of sperm banks won't work with lesbians," she told the *B.A.R.*, "and the thing that makes people come [to us] from all over the place is because we're supportive of their plans." Pacific Reproductive Services has facilitated a little over 400 births around the country since opening up in the Castro in 1984. In addition to shipping frozen sperm, Mills said they frequently offer how-to lessons over the phone about the inseminations and timing the cycles.

"The other half of what we do is a lot of emotional counseling" because of strains on finances and on relationships, she added.

"I think many women in the queer community for years wanted to have a baby and create families, and I think that because the creation of families is so much more intentional, it becomes much more of a mental process. Then all your head trips get in the way: I see women wait for years to have the right partner, the right job, the right relationships skills."

Toevs said certain common themes surrounding pregnancy arise in clients of all races and economic levels. Typical concerns include isolation among peers in the queer community—which is not, in her opinion, as child-friendly as it should be; internalized homophobia; and other self-doubts.

Mills said she was impressed with the full service concept offered by Toevs and Brill, after co-sponsoring a series of lectures on conception with them at Lyon-Martin Medical Services in San Francisco. "I was really impressed with their insights, a lot about what lesbians go through," she said.

Pursuing motherhood would be legitimized for lesbians, Mills believes, if gay marriages were legalized. "We'd have that social support. The rest of it is just sort of changing attitudes, realizing that having children is a really happy thing, and it's a really universal thing."

"People want to have children. To make it a shameful thing, because someone is a lesbian, is a crime."

Fortunately, Mills said, she has seen dramatic changes take place on a smaller, more personal level. "I've seen a lot of parents come around," she told the *B.A.R.* "I've seen most of them become loving grandparents." ▼

Photo: Jeff Zimmerman

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GLAAD

# Don't Ask Dr. Ruth!

by Al Kielwasser

Mainstream advice columnists now regularly tackle queer questions, with varying degrees of success, in newspapers around the globe. A recent effort by Ruth Westheimer is a notable failure.

In "Ask Dr. Ruth" (*Chicago Tribune*, Dec. 21), the popular sex expert responded to a 17-year-old gay transvestite, who wrote, "I have a big dilemma. I live at home with my mother and stepfather and neither one of them agrees with my lifestyle. ... I have not flaunted my lifestyle in their faces. I do not have my boyfriend call my house, and I don't use my mother's clothes. I dress at my friend's house and my boyfriend pages me. I go to the mall to buy my own clothes, makeup, and jewelry." The young man concluded, "My parents want me to move out, but I don't have a place to stay. Do you have any advice?"

Westheimer answered, "Since you are only 17, you do have a dilemma. Without a job, it is really not possible for you to move out. You need to finish your schooling ... ." She added, "Since you have been discreet, I hope you can convince your mother and stepfather to allow you to stay. You might want to sit down and talk to them and tell them that you will do everything in your power to keep your lifestyle under wraps. Ask them to give you a little more time so you can get on your feet."

"If that fails," Westheimer concluded, "there may be a group home nearby where you can find a

place to stay."

Westheimer's advice is lazy and vacuous. "There may be a group home somewhere" is hardly the stuff of expert wisdom. Westheimer might have at least expended the slightest energy and referred this potentially-homeless boy to specific hotlines or agencies in his area.

Westheimer is either indifferent or blind to this teenager's real dilemma. The boy isn't toying with the idea of moving. He is facing the very real possibility of forced homelessness because of his sexual orientation (it's an all-too-common problem, as an "expert" like Westheimer should know).

Westheimer advises the boy to tell his parents "that you will do everything in your power to keep your lifestyle under wraps." As an "expert," Westheimer might have mentioned that the closet (however unavoidable it can seem) is not a healthy place to live. Conceding to the ignorance of others might be necessary for immediate survival, but it must always be a last option.

Casually, Westheimer suggests that this teenager might further accommodate his parents. More accurately, of course, he would be accommodating his parent's bigotry and ignorance. The problem, fundamentally, is *theirs*. Homosexuality is not the cause of homophobia. Homophobes are not cured when homosexuals go "under wraps."

Unfortunately, Westheimer never considers the possibility that these parents, like many others, could exchange their ignorance for understanding. Instead, she writes as if homophobia were chronic. Her advice neither affirms nor informs.

Send comments to Ruth Westheimer, "Ask Dr. Ruth," c/o *The Chicago Tribune*, 435 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago IL 60611, tel. 312-222-3232, fax 312-222-2568.

## Rated H

Self-described as "a Christian organization promoting the Biblical ethic of decency in American society with primary emphasis on TV and other media," the American Family Association (AFA) is actually a well-financed, heterosexual supremacist group. The organization's monthly magazine, the *AFA Journal*, has begun the new year with a bigot's guide to broadcasting. The January 1996 issue offers readers a homophobic accounting of prime-time television programming.

To indicate the "offensiveness" of particular programs, the AFA has assigned various ratings codes. These codes include: "AC" (anti-Christian), "PC" (politically correct), "S" (objectionable sexual content), "P" (profanity) and — of course — "H" (promotes homosexual agenda).

An episode of *The Crew* (FOX, November 16), for example, is rated "S H P6." Thus, according to the AFA, the episode contained objectionable sexual content, promoted the homosexual agenda, and used profanity ... six times! A brief content summary is also provided, for specific details: "RuPaul is a guest star, and dialogue is packed with homosexual jokes, bondage jokes and more."

Of the 22 prime-time series reviewed, the AFA accuses 15 of "promoting the homosexual agenda." H ratings are given to *Courthouse* (CBS), *The Crew* (FOX), *Friends* (NBC), *High Society* (CBS), *Homicide* (NBC), *Hope & Gloria* (NBC), *Hudson Street* (ABC), *Melrose Place* (FOX), *The Nanny* (CBS), *NewsRadio* (NBC), *NYPD Blue* (ABC), *Pursuit of*

*Happiness* (NBC), *Roseanne* (ABC), *The Single Guy* (NBC), and *Sisters* (NBC). Of these, five — *The Crew*, *Friends*, *Melrose Place*, *Courthouse* and *NYPD Blue* — are cited for multiple promo-homo episodes.

Significantly, AFA members are encouraged to write or call companies that purchased airtime during H-rated shows. These advertisers are urged to stop sponsoring the "homosexual agenda," or risk a loss in sales.

The effectiveness of such threats is difficult to determine (and the subject of some debate). Despite official industry denials, however, advertisers undoubtedly wield significant influence over the content of commercial television. The AFA, which reaches a large, responsive membership, intends to wield significant influence over the conduct of advertisers.

The *AFA Journal* specifically targets Abbott Labs (Murnie eye drops, Selsun Blue shampoos), for advertising during *Courthouse* episodes that portrayed lesbianism as "normal" and a lesbian as the "heroine." McDonald's (fast foods) is also cited, for sponsoring episodes of *The Crew* that featured "Paul, the series homosexual." Procter & Gamble (Tide, Spic & Span, Pringles) is listed, for purchasing airtime during episodes of *Friends* in which there were "numerous homosexual and condom" references and "God's name is used in vain about once every 2.5 minutes." The AFA targets Volkswagen (Audi, Volkswagen cars) for sponsoring *NYPD Blue*'s inclusion of a lesbian police officer, a homosexual secretary, and "many crude scatological and sex terms (piss, pullin' my pud, joint, etc.)." Finally, Johnson & Johnson (Johnson baby products, Tylenol) is cited for sponsoring "homosexual character Matt," staple of the prime-time soap opera *Melrose Place*.

Urge companies targeted by the AFA to resist the forces of homophobic hate, through the continued support of fairness, accuracy, and diversity in television. Contact: • Duane L. Burnham, Chair, Abbott Laboratories, 100 Abbott Park Road, Abbott Park IL 60064, tel. 708-937-6100, fax 708-937-1511; • Ralph S. Larsen, Chair, Johnson & Johnson, One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick NJ 08933, tel. 908-524-0400 or 800-635-6789, fax 908-214-0332; • Michael R. Quinlan, Chair, McDonald's Corporation, 1 Kroc Drive, Oak Brook IL 60521, tel. 708-575-3000, fax 708-575-5512; • Edwin L. Artzt, Chair, Procter & Gamble, P.O. Box 599, Cincinnati OH 45201, tel. 513-983-1100 or 800-435-9254, fax 513-562-4500; Clive Warrilow, President, Volkswagen of America, P.O. Box 3951, Troy MI 48007, tel. 310-340-5000 or 800-822-8987, fax 310-340-5025.

The *AFA Journal* is the product of Donald E. Wildmon, Executive Editor and President, American Family Association, P.O. Drawer 2440, Tupelo MS 38803, tel. 601-844-5036, fax 601-844-9176, e-mail amfamilly@ebicom.net, URL <http://www.gocin.com/afa/home.htm>.

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, please call our 24-hour MediAlert Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to: Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103, tel. 415-861-2244.



# SF Gays Say: Nicht Deutsch Bier Hier

by Mary Ann Swissler

San Francisco gays and lesbians will participate in a noontime "beer-letting" today, January 4, in front of the Goethe Institute, located at 530 Bush Street, to protest a German federal prosecutor's censorship of gay topics on CompuServe. [See story, page one.]

"I plan to stand in front of the Goethe Institute and pour out Beck's and St. Pauli Girl beers into the sewer," Michael Petrelis of Americans for Gay Rights told the *Bay Area Reporter*. He said the action is part of a month-long boycott, which his group hopes other gays — and gay bars — will join.

Goethe is a quasi-governmental institution located in San Francisco, Washington, DC, and New York, which promotes German culture abroad. Next week it is sponsoring a German film festival at the Castro Theater.

Petrelis said he would like to see the boycott extended to CompuServe, but for now is confining it to German beer companies.

"[CompuServe, Inc.] caved in so quickly and drew up the list of data bases, but I thought that since the Bavarian prosecutor was the one to start this, the German government should be the ones to be

boycotted," he said.

John James, editor and publisher of *AIDS Treatment News*, said CompuServe's actions are unnecessary since preventing children from viewing potentially pornographic material, or others who might be offended, can already be accomplished with existing "blocking" software. "The parents should have control, and do have control, through software that is available," he said.

After a January 2 rally for her recently announced State Senate candidacy, Supervisor Angela Alioto said that although she is not computer literate enough to understand the Internet, she is opposed to censorship in all forms. Aide Jerry Windley commented, "It's amazing that in our technologically advanced age, CompuServe, Inc. cannot accommodate the wishes of the German Supreme Court without having to infringe on the rights of everyone else."

Also on hand at the event was former mayoral candidate Roberta Achtenberg, who commented, "If CompuServe is being complicit in discrimination I'm obviously against that."

While not professing to know anything about the latest in a string of public feuds over the Internet,

Achtenberg did say that she thought boycotts "were an effective tool."

James underscored the importance to HIV/AIDS education of the type of services nixed by CompuServe.

"The future of AIDS education is going to be through computer education," he said. ▼

## CompuServe

Continued from page 1

and Americans should be greatly alarmed by the speed at which your company has zapped the freedom of speech on the Internet."

The CompuServe action affects all 4,000,000 of the online firm's subscribers. It came after a German prosecutor won an order to have CompuServe block access to some 200 newsgroups that were deemed to be sexually explicit, or else cease doing business in that nation.

But since CompuServe has no mechanism in place to block access only to its 100,000 German subscribers, which accounts for 20 percent of its European market, it had to block the access to all the firm's customers.

"Obviously, we're getting negative feedback from our members, but CompuServe didn't choose to do this," said Daphne Kent, a CompuServe spokeswoman. "This was a decision forced on us by the German government." ▼

## Salvation

Continued from page 1

a manipulation of power that borders on psychological abuse.

The practice is commonly and derisively known among non-profit city contractors and subcontractors as putting on "a dog and pony show" — and, key City Hall sources say, even though no public testimony was allowed, the Salvation Army spectacle did not sit well with the board.

"The program clients are hostages. It's troubling to me, and I will say that it is something that should not happen," said Supervisor Susan Leal. Leal is not the only member of the board who objected to the practice.

"No, I don't think it's appropriate, but they all do it," Supervisor Tom Ammiano said of the practice.

Migden also told the *Bay Area Reporter* she viewed the tactic with disdain.

### Board Needs To Take A Stand

Ammiano said that he did not favor the continuance, because he doubted the Salvation Army would change its anti-gay rhetoric. He said the board needed to take a stand on whether it would continue to fund homophobic groups or repudiate them.

In one example reflecting his concern, Ammiano told the *B.A.R.* he was approached after the hearing by a reporter for a daily newspaper, for comment on an Army spokesman's position that the lesbian and gay community — and not the organization — would be hurt if the request for funds were rejected.

"Once again, they are blaming the victims," he said. "Our community understands that. I'm not sure the mainstream press gets it, though."

As the *Bay Area Reporter* left the board meeting, a Salvation Army spokesman had just told an observer the religious organization was not anti-gay — even though it would only ordain homosexuals who were willing to agree never to have sex.

Although Migden initially said that the continuance was needed

because she believed "we're moving ahead on resolving concerns," she later told the *Bay Area Reporter* she wanted to make it clear that she was not inclined to approve the release of the funds.

She said the Army must flatly "agree to a set of terms," or the board will not disburse the federal emergency shelter and housing funds.

A frankly dubious Leal told the *B.A.R.* her concerns about funding the homophobic organization have not been dissuaded, but agreed to Migden's continuance to allow her colleague time to review the materials sent by the Army.

The long-simmering dispute between the Salvation Army and the lesbian and gay community flared up following a patronizing and insulting November 30 letter to the *B.A.R.* from Salvation Army administrative officer Samuel Southard, who was responding to widespread criticism of the group.

Southard reiterated the Army's theological position that homosexuals are mentally sick and "needed help and understanding," but stressed that homosexual behavior, like "any deviant behavior is capable of control." He also said homosexuals who were not "able to develop mature heterosexual relationships can be helped by medical treatment and/or psychiatric or pastoral counseling" and by conversion to Christianity.

A Salvation Army divisional spokesman later acknowledged the letter accurately reflected the group's religious viewpoint, but said it confused that view with the group's social mission and was sent without permission.

Salvation Army divisional director Major Jerry Gaines said the group did not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, but in an earlier incident, the Army indicated it would refuse city funds rather than be required to house a lesbian couple with children in its emergency housing program.

Southard's comments were also believed to be a direct attempt to subvert Gaines's authority within the group. Recently appointed to his post, Gaines has no direct control over Southard or his programs. ▼

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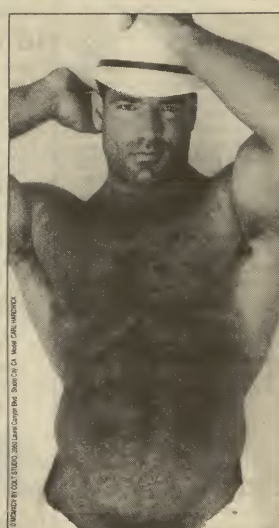
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# Gay Community Center To Come to Santa Rosa Soon

by Mary Ann Swissler

Santa Rosa's gays and lesbians will need look no further than their own backyards for a community center when "The Pride Center" opens on the grounds of a former health spa.

Organizers could only offer an estimated completion date of "sometime in 1996," but said that renovations and construction are going along smoothly.

Most of the credit seems to go to Father Nicholas Careone, leader of the Santa Rosa-based Church of St. Sergius and Bacchus. His church sits directly next to the 7,500-square-foot property, which is conveniently located across from the Santa Rosa Plaza.

Father Nicholas's idea to transform the rundown property from its current role, as a haven for the homeless and IV drug users, into a gay community center was joined by Santa Rosa resident Mert Preston's desire to find the necessary funding to bring a project like this to fruition.

Preston's group, LEGACY, was started solely to build a com-



Due to open "sometime in 1996," Santa Rosa's Pride Center is right under Highway 101.

munity center.

Preston told the *Bay Area Reporter* that when the center opens it won't displace the homeless who, along with several intravenous drug users, had taken over the dilapidated building. Pride Center organizers hope to start a

hygiene center for the homeless on the east side of the building, which used to be a women's locker and shower room.

Father Nicholas, who is gay, said having the gay center connected with the church will begin to resolve many problems be-

tween the community and the Christian Church. He stressed that he does not see the role of a community center as a captive audience for converting Santa Rosa gays and lesbians to Christianity.

He plans to hold support group meetings, provide office space, and rent space for larger social events, he told the *B.A.R.*

Since Father Nicholas and Preston joined forces, a number of gay and lesbian groups in the Santa Rosa area have come together for a common purpose of building the long sought-after community center. Groups such as the gay Latino group, Union Y Fuerza, have shown up each weekend to do much of the renovation and reconstruction work, and Father Nicholas's church has provided both funding and volunteers to install new wiring and plumbing, along with much of the carpeting, tiles, and painting. ▼

For more information contact Mert Preston at (707) 579-5308, or call the LEGACY answering machine at (707) 526-0442 from 9 to 11 a.m.

# Rotary Club To Discuss AIDS Issues in Sunnyvale

by Mary Ann Swissler

Mountain View insurance executive and former high school principal Dushan Angius organized the Rotary AIDS Project after his son died of the disease in 1989. Angius, senior vice president of Lawson-Hawks Insurance and past president of Rotary Club of Los Altos, told the *Bay Area Reporter* the project hopes to foster greater understanding of HIV issues in the workplace and to change behaviors and attitudes towards the disease among Rotary Club members.

Other Rotarians who have joined Angius are Robert Haas, chairman and CEO of Levi Strauss & Co.; Gerald W. McEntee, president of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees; and Gilbert Ford, president and CEO

of Converse, Inc.

The project will hold one of its first events, "AIDS: Our Community's Challenge," February 8, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sunnyvale Hilton Hotel, located at 1250 Lakeside Drive in Sunnyvale. Each person attending will receive a copy of a 30-minute video, *The Los Altos Story*, about three Rotary families affected by AIDS, including Angius's.

Scheduled speakers include Revelry Bradley, who will address the needs of AIDS education in the schools; attorney and nurse Audrey Covner, speaking about implications of the American Disabilities Act on HIV-positive employees; and other panelists from concerned South Bay agencies.

Angius said that before his own son died of the disease, he was like most people when it came to HIV/AIDS education. "I



Rotary AIDS Project founder Dushan Angius (center) with his wife Barbara (right) and son Steve (left).

had a cavalier attitude, and thought, 'Oh, isn't it terrible?' without getting very involved," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Now, he said, motivating others is a very high priority. "Our goal is to get *The Los Altos Story* in every Rotary Club in the

world," he said. Currently there are 1.2 million members of 25,000 Rotary clubs in 54 countries. ▼

To register for the February event, call Myrna Klokow at (408) 738-8708, or Flo Stafford at (408) 245-2201.

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“As an openly gay man living in New York City in the 70's and 80's, I experienced the exhilaration of gay liberation after Stonewall, and then despair as the AIDS epidemic cut down so many wonderful people in the prime of their lives. My lover Gary and I lost most of our close friends.

“Before the AIDS crisis struck, as a young attorney I provided free legal services to gay rights activists, and in 1977 became a Board member of the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, the nation's leading legal advocate for gay men and lesbians. Then, in the earliest years of the AIDS epidemic, I volunteered at the Gay Men's Health Crisis, and from 1984 to 1990 served as a member of GMHC's Board, fighting to get the government to recognize the crisis, provide money for AIDS research and care for the sick. I also co-founded and chaired the AIDS Action Council in Washington, D.C., the largest national effort to champion the needs of people with HIV and AIDS. Later, I served as Executive Director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, where I helped raise millions of dollars to assist people living with HIV/AIDS.

“Now, I am proud to have become Chairman and CEO of American Life Resources. At first, I had some skepticism about the viatical settlement industry, but once I saw some of my own friends sell their life insurance policies, stop worrying about money and get greater control over their lives, it became clear that viatical settlements are all about living and getting on with life. Cashing in on their life insurance made it possible for them to afford quality health care, pay their bills and live a more relaxed and less stressful lifestyle.

“As head of the nation's oldest viatical settlement company, I will press for regulation of this industry by state insurance departments to educate and protect consumers, and safeguard their confidentiality. I'll also be actively involved in assuring aggressive monitoring by the industry itself. My goal is that those companies which play by the rules and serve their clients' interests succeed, while those that cut corners disappear.

“I want people with HIV and AIDS – the people of my community – to live longer, with a sustained quality of life. You have my assurance that if you deal with American Life Resources, we will always put your interests first. Indeed, we encourage everyone who calls us to consult an independent financial counselor or attorney so they understand all their options. And because our staff is trained by professionals who work with local AIDS organizations, when you call us you'll be talking to someone who understands the complex issues facing people with HIV/AIDS.”

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**HEALTH NEWS**

# New Protease Inhibitor Gets Closer to Market

PRNewswire

Abbott Laboratories submitted a New Drug Application to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Thursday, December 21, seeking clearance for the use of the protease inhibitor ritonavir to treat HIV infection.

Protease inhibitors are a new class of drug with a mechanism of action that is different from the previously available antiretroviral treatments for AIDS. Nucleoside analogues, such as AZT and ddC, work by inhibiting the action of reverse transcriptase, an enzyme involved in the replication of the virus's genetic material. Protease inhibitors, such as ritonavir, block the action of an enzyme involved in the final processing of viral proteins. By blocking protease activity, protease inhibitors prevent production of infectious viral particles.

"Ritonavir offers physicians and patients a powerful protease inhibitor for the fight against HIV infection and AIDS," says Andre Per-

net, Ph.D., vice president of pharmaceutical products research and development at Abbott. "Based on what we now understand about viral dynamics, it appears that early intervention with a combination of antiretroviral agents may be the best treatment strategy for HIV-infected patients. Ritonavir is being developed in both capsule and liquid form, and will be administered in a twice-daily dosing regimen."

Data from two double-blind, multicenter, multicountry, randomized trials demonstrated the effectiveness of ritonavir for the treatment of HIV infection. The first trial (M94-247) studied the safety and efficacy of ritonavir plus current therapy against placebo plus current therapy. In this trial, 1,090 patients were randomized to receive daily either 1,200 mg of ritonavir or placebo, concomitant with existing nucleoside therapy (if any).

In the first 159 patients enrolled with high baseline HIV RNA levels, ritonavir produced statistically significant decreases in mean viral

RNA levels compared to placebo over the first 16 weeks of the study. Measurement of viral RNA levels are indicative of the amount of the HIV virus in a patient's blood. In the ritonavir group, patients showed a maximal mean decrease in HIV RNA levels of 90 percent after two weeks of treatment. The magnitude of the decrease attenuated over time. This compares with negligible mean changes at all time points in the placebo group.

CD4 counts were analyzed from the first 211 patients randomized. Statistically significant increases in average change of CD4 count from baseline were observed with ritonavir as compared to placebo over the first 16 weeks.

**Effects and side effects**

The second trial (M94-245) compared the efficacy of ritonavir alone, zidovudine (AZT) alone, or the combination of ritonavir and AZT in HIV-infected patients without prior antiretroviral therapy. In this trial, 356 patients were randomized to one of the three treatment groups. All patients had at least one screening CD4 lymphocyte count of at least 200 cells/microliter and at least one screening of HIV RNA level 15,000 particles/mL.

Over the first 16 weeks of the study, ritonavir produced statistically significant decreases in mean average viral RNA levels compared to the combination and AZT groups. In the ritonavir group, a mean decrease in HIV RNA of greater than 90 percent from baseline was observed after two weeks of treatment. The magnitude of decrease persisted with the ritonavir group over the 16-week observation period.

In addition, statistically significant mean average increases in CD4 count were observed with both arms compared to AZT. In the ritonavir alone group, mean increases exceeding 62 cells/microliter were observed by the second week of treatment, and were maintained or exceeded at all later visits.

In addition, data from a supportive study (M94-208) showed that the use of ritonavir in combination with the nucleoside analogues AZT and ddC demonstrated more potent antiviral activity than any single agent or combination of agents previously tested with ritonavir in therapy-naïve patients.

An open-label, multicenter, six-month evaluation (M94-208) of the safety and antiviral activity of ritonavir in combination with AZT and ddC studied 32 HIV-positive patients enrolled in the trial. After two weeks of treatment, the mean viral RNA levels decreased 95 percent (1.26 logs) from baseline in ritonavir-treated patients. In addition, the median increase in CD4 cell count ranged from 80 cells/microliter after eight weeks of treatment to 106 cells/microliter at week 12. After 20 weeks of treatment, the mean viral RNA levels decreased 98% (1.76 logs) from baseline in ritonavir-treated patients and the median CD4 cell count was 171 among ritonavir-treated patients.

Improvement in immunological status was apparent after two weeks of treatment and continued throughout the 20-week observation period.

Ritonavir generally was well tolerated in clinical trials. In all three trials, the most common adverse events observed were diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, asthenia, and circumoral paresthesia. It was noted that, in trial M94-247, the incidence of each of these adverse events was highest in the first two weeks after commencing use of ritonavir. ▼

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# Reducing HIV Transmission Behind Bars

by Mary Ann Swissler

According to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, one third of incarcerated men report "engaging" in homosexual activity while serving out their prison sentences. Groups like the James Markunas Society want to make latex condoms figure into that equation, despite the "no talk" rules that abound in prisons about sexual activity. Moreover, they work to end drug addiction and mental health problems among inmates.

And, like the group's advocacy for fair treatment of gay prisoners since 1986, they have pushed for humane treatment of all prisoners with HIV/AIDS, irrespective of their sexual orientation.

Call 775-5445 for more information.

HIV-positive residents of San Francisco are among those being sought out by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. Community activists who are clued in to issues of transgender persons, alternative families, diversity, youth, HIV, and other civil rights issues are strongly encouraged to apply to the position. Those chosen will be required to attend meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month, at 5:30 p.m.

To apply, send a letter and a resume to: LGBTAC, Human Rights Commission, 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 800, San Francisco CA 94102-6033. For more information call (415) 252-2500.

Application deadline is January 18.

Home Care Companions has announced its latest schedule of classes on home caretaking skills. Free workshops on "how-to" practical skills training for partners, friends and family who are taking care of persons with AIDS will be offered in both San Francisco and Berkeley in January, according to spokesperson Celi Adams of HCC.

Adams told the B.A.R. that the five-session classes will cover pain and symptom management, hands-on bed care, and turning/lifting/moving body mechanics. She said participants will learn "how to lift someone without hurting your back, using all the best principles of physical therapy."

San Francisco classes will be held at Davies Medical Center on Jan. 17, 18, 19, 22, and 23 from 7 to 10 p.m. Berkeley classes will be conducted at the Alta Bates Medical Center on Jan. 10, 11, 12, 15, and 16 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Advance registration for either series of classes is required and can be done by calling 824-3269.

Up to 46 percent of people with HIV/AIDS contract CMV retinitis, a sight-threatening eye infection. Now the drug company Hoffmann-La Roche has announced a screening program to aid early detection for CMV retinitis in HIV/AIDS patients.

"The goal of the program is to significantly increase awareness of CMV retinitis through self-testing in between regularly scheduled office or clinic visits, and to alert patients to the need to see an ophthalmologist for routine screening," according to a company spokesperson.

For more information call 1-800-624-CHECK.

The Alameda County Ryan White Title II HIV Consortium is looking for a Chair and a Co-Chair. Nominations are now being



Home Care Companions Executive Director Celi Adams.

accepted, and elections will be held on January 11 at the Office of AIDS, located at 1970 Broadway, 11th Floor, in Oakland.

For more information call Dan Barba at (510) 548-4040.

The following clinical trials are open:

- Beginning in January, a study to determine the effect of a testosterone analog, nandrolone de-

canoate, will be conducted by Western Human Nutrition Research Center (WHNRC) for HIV-positive men between the ages of 20 and 60 who have experienced recent, involuntary weight loss. Low testosterone levels have been associated with weight loss and deteriorating health. Volunteers must have been in good health for the past two months, and must live at the WHNRC on the Presidio for three weeks, with a three-month follow-up study.

Call 556-2174 for more information.

- UCSF AIDS Program has opened a clinical trial of multiple doses of recombinant interleukin-12 (rhIL-12) for HIV-positive men and women between the ages of 18 and 60. Other eligibility requirements include a CD4 count between 100 and 500 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>, no significant infections in the past six weeks, and existing prescriptions for two FDA-approved antiretroviral drugs in combination.

Continued on page 22

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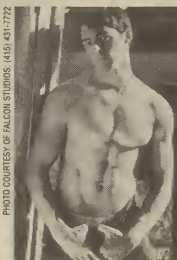


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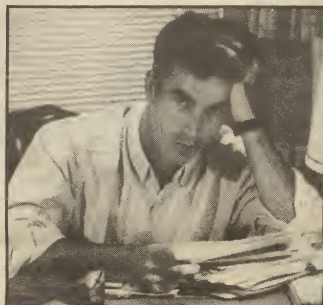
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## OBITUARIES

### Obituary Policy

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you enclose a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

#### Ramiro Gutierrez

July 5, 1956 - Nov. 30, 1995

Ramiro passed away with tremendous grace after a long and courageous struggle with AIDS. His lover Tom and many loving family members were with him.

Ramiro moved from Hollister to the Bay Area in the early '80s and lived in San Jose, Alameda and Oakland. He also spent famous times working and playing in the city he loved. For many years he worked in the home medical equipment business. He loved the interaction with people and took great pride in his work and his appearance.

Ramiro treasured his family and had many loving friends. Among those who loved and will miss him are his former lover, Jim; his companion in many adventures, Carlos; and his dear friends, Paul, Robert, Brian, Hugh and Gary.

Ramiro celebrated life with a passion for travel, dancing, clothes and certain herbs. Although, at times, his life was a challenge to those who loved him, the rewards were many. He will be dearly remembered for his boyish charm and kindness. ▼

#### Roger Alan Hart

Nov. 12, 1957 - Dec. 20, 1995

Roger fought valiantly against AIDS for four years until his loving heart simply couldn't go any longer. He is survived by his partner of 3-1/2 years, Kevin Speitel of Windsor, Calif., who wishes to thank his wonderful parents, Harry and Marilyn, and especially his sister, Trish, for their stalwart support and love during this difficult time.

And Roger, your loving K-Bear thanks you for giving him a home, family and, most of all, unconditional love! I'll miss you always! Have fun in that bass section with the angels! ▼

#### Felix (Feliciano) Parroquin

June 9, 1965 - Dec. 24, 1995

Felix came to San Francisco from Oaxaca, Mexico, in 1991. Here he discovered himself fully as a gay person, and lived out his last years in the freedom this city offered him. He was an elegant, polite, loving and lovable person who made friends easily and gracefully. During his long and valiant struggle with AIDS, his friends cared for him with great dedication. He died, peacefully at home, in the arms of his lover.

Felix had the great gift of knowing how to live one day at a time. He enjoyed life fully and, even under very difficult circumstances, made the best out of what fate had to offer him. It was his insatiable joy for life and his skill for living in the present that made him such a remarkable person.

He leaves his lover, Mirek, and a number of very close friends in San Francisco. His large family in Mexico, as well as many of his school friends, stood by him during his illness. We shall all miss his childlike joyfulness, sweetness and serenity. *Adios, nuestro querido amigo!* ▼

#### John D. Ostlund

Aug. 17, 1956 - Dec. 8, 1995

John lived in the Bay Area for 16 years from 1976 until 1992. An academically-trained chef, he worked at Fantasia Bakery in South San Francisco, West Side Cafe in Berkeley, and at the Mire Beau French restaurant in Oakland. He loved to share his cooking talents with his friends, hosting dinner parties and Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. He was a leader in the spiritual community of The Church for Unity and Service.

John fought valiantly against AIDS since his first bout with PCP in April 1992. He moved back to Minneapolis in December 1992 to the love and care of his mom, Charlene Jensen, and four sisters: Kay, Cheryl, Mary and Nancy.

John's friends left behind will sorely miss his tasty delights, his warm smile, devilish laugh, and his unconditional understanding and love. He joins his friends - Kevin Dance, Steven Wallace, Chuck Thorp, Michael Smith, Jeffrey Musio - and others who preceded him.

This summer, his sister Cheryl will be participating in a fundraiser for local Minneapolis AIDS-service agencies and would appreciate sponsors. Also, there will be a memorial service held for John in January. For details, please contact Bill Beckerman at 510/763-2455. ▼

#### Joseph Jerome Ellert

Oct. 28, 1950 - Dec. 25, 1995

Joseph (a.k.a. "Peg") of the constant smile, "Mr. Okey-Dokey," left his home, family and friends Christmas Day after a month-long bout of AIDS-related pneumonia.

Born in Indiana, Joseph obtained a journalism degree, served in the military, and was an accomplished pianist. He next resided in San Diego before arriving in San Francisco, where his obsessions burst forth in all their glory: Gertrude Stein, Joni Mitchell, Betty Boop and Patty Duke; Galleria and Gift Center parties, The Ambush, Gay Freedom Day - Joseph could party with the best. Best of Broadway, Bruce Springsteen, Theatre Rhino, Nancy Sinatra, Gay Games - Joseph attended them all. Trips to Hawaii, Ptown, New York (Stonewall) and his beloved Paris.

Joseph was a kind, devoted son, brother and friend, always concerned for others, never one to ask for things for himself. If others were happy, Joseph was happy. His family in Evansville - mother, Clarita; brothers, Mike, Pete, and David; and sisters Sara, Julie and Mary - and his San Francisco family (Picasso, Stud Muffin, Victor, Marge and Cuddles) will miss him deeply.

"They say...that when good Americans die they go to Paris." - Oscar Wilde ▼

#### John Sidney Kessinger

March 23, 1954 - Nov. 30, 1995

John loved San Francisco and leaves her with many hillside-covered in wild flowers. For the many friends who loved him, we will all remember his love of words and Mother Nature. He took us to tide pools, national parks, pumpkin patches, and on every adventure he discovered in poetry or prose.

John worked as a gardener and later with Pacific Bell. He left work a few years ago and drove his truck cross-country in an adventure we all shared through postcards and letters written with his keen eye on isolated desert mornings and when the trees of an unexplored forest would lure him away. Land's End, A Different Light and Joy Street Gardens were also favorite places to find John.

John appreciated the work of Kaiser Hospice, in particular, Ruth Ann and Michael. Any donations made in his memory might best be made to Project Open Hand.

Thanks to Patrick, Jim, Jo, Denise, Rodney and his sister, Glenas. In particular, we thank Christopher (and their cat, Nile), with whom John shared his hopes, dreams, journeys and his heart. "Nothing gold can stay." ▼

#### Gary "Wolf" Hoagland

June 9, 1963 - Dec. 21, 1995

As a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and a survivor of its war against gays and a long-term survivor of AIDS, Gary ended his battles peacefully on the Winter Solstice. In his short life, Gary participated in numerous community organizations. In his strongly independent and feisty style, he championed human and animal rights everywhere he went.

Among many of Gary's activities, he held the honorable position of "Ambassador at Large" for the Tarheel Leather Club of Greensboro, N.C. He was also a former member of the SF Lesbian/Gay Chorus.

Gary's love of wolves and efforts to end their persecution were well-known to those who knew and loved him. He was a contributing member of Wolf Haven International.

Gary is survived by a large extended family, mostly in California, Washington state and North Carolina, including his grandmother, Ruth Long; his sister, Sharon Freeman of Texas; his closest friend, Walter Rosenthal of San Francisco; and his bestest canine friend, Barnabus, also of San Francisco.

Gary's wit, humor and gentle compassion will be truly missed by all whose lives he touched. A memorial service will be held in February. Please contact Walter at 415/332-9282 for more information. ▼

#### Kerry Spencer

Aug. 9, 1947 - Dec. 24, 1995

On the morning of December 24, Kerry left us, leaving behind a trail of

memories and a host of loving and supportive family and friends who will greatly miss him.

An employee of Stormy Leather and a habitue of the Castro Country Club, he was a valued and much loved craftsman and artist who shared his talents

with many. He put his heart and soul into all he did and gave generously of his skills even in illness.

Kerry passed peacefully in anticipation of a Christmas that he was to spend elsewhere with the two lovers and many friends who preceded him in death. You could almost hear the sound of sleigh bells and reindeer on the roof as he left.

A memorial for Kerry will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 6, at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco. Please make donations in his memory to Family Link or Project Open Hand.

Please call Joe at 647-3063 for any further information. ▼

#### Jeffrey M. Lowell

1942 - 1995

Jeffrey M. Lowell died at his Oakland home on December 10. At his side were loving

friends Karen Morebeck, Dale Lott, Robert McKechie, Peggy Martin Portillo and Jim Stillman.

Jeff led a life of achievement and grace.

He made substantial professional contributions during his 22-year career at the California Medical Association. He loved the opera and held season tickets for years. He died on the day the San Francisco Opera House closed for repairs.

During his final months, Jeff expressed deep gratitude for his friends in Alcoholics Anonymous, especially mentioning the Tuesday Night Men's Meeting in Oakland. In November Jeff picked up a chip honoring his 15 years of sobriety.

Jeff completed a bachelor's in comparative literature at the University of California at Berkeley in 1965, and a master's in English at San Francisco State University in 1972. He served as a Peace Corps volunteer for two years, working as a high school English teacher in Malawi, Africa.

Jeff was preceded in death by his older brother, Steve. Jeff and Steve both died of AIDS. A memorial service for Jeff was held at his home on December 16. ▼



# Watters Autopsy Confirms Morphine Overdose

by Dennis Conkin

AIDS needle exchange researcher and proponent John Watters died last month of acute morphine-type alkaloid poisoning – and not from an overdose of prescription drugs, as friends had suggested – according to the results of an autopsy performed by the San Francisco's Medical Examiner's Office released Thursday, December 28.

The condition of Watters' heart upon anatomical examination revealed cardiac hypertrophy, an indication that Watters had a long history of using cocaine and amphetamine-type drugs, according to San Francisco Administrative Coroner Herb Hawley.

Watters was found dead November 20 at his home by Leslie Iura, his former partner and mother of their eight-year-old son. Watters' girlfriend in New York had called to ask Iura to check on Watters' well-being after he failed to arrive on a scheduled flight that same evening. According to a coroner's report, Iura entered the residence, found the 47-year-old University of California assistant professor lying dead on a couch, and called

city paramedics.

Watters was in a prone position on the couch, with his lower extremities on the ground. A syringe containing a clear liquid, a spoon with white powder in it, a glass of water, and cotton balls were found on a cutting board on the kitchen table. The medical examiner's office determined through toxicological analysis the white powder on the spoon was cocaine, and not sugar or salt as close friends and colleagues of Watters had suggested to the *SF Weekly*.

Experts suggest that Watters was getting ready to inject cocaine to complement the morphine alkaloid already in his system, as a kind of two-shot "speedball," but overdosed before he was able to inject the cocaine.

According to the autopsy performed by three assistant SF medical examiners, Watters was generally in very good health and an examination of his heart indicated that he suffered only minimal arteriosclerosis.

## Inner demons

Watters' difficulties with alcohol and drugs were no secret to some close friends and colleagues, a former associate told

the *Bay Area Reporter*.

What may surprise some of his academic counterparts is that Watters was also an ex-convict, who spent six months in a Massachusetts state prison for a felony narcotics conviction in 1970. The remainder of the two-year sentence was probated.

"John lived a pretty tortured life, with problems that people in the field may not have known about," said Dr. Harvey Feldman, a medical sociologist who once worked closely with Watters. "Few of them are possessed by the kind of inner demons that John was. Anybody who knew him knew they popped out at the most interesting times."

"None of this comes as a big surprise."

Feldman and the late Dr. Patrick Biernacki developed the pioneering Mid-City Consortium to Combat AIDS community health outreach model that took neighborhood residents and trained them as community health outreach workers equipped with condoms, bleach, and AIDS education and prevention information in high AIDS risk San Francisco neighborhoods.

Watters was primarily responsible for the statistical and epidemiological data from the anonymous HIV testing and other components of the program, Feldman said. After the colleagues had a falling out, Watters launched Urban Health Study,

Continued on page 20

## OBITUARIES

### Carlos Alberto Velez

March 1, 1962 – Dec. 20, 1995

Carlos peacefully passed on to another life due to AIDS complications.

He was at his home with his longtime companion, Mark, by his side.

Carlos has left behind a great gift, his love for life, plus the joy he brought to everyone he touched. He hoped that everyone who knew him would dance one last dance for him, as he is now dancing, like an angel.

Carlos is survived by his mother, Betsy Escobar; his father, Al Velez; his sister, Lizette; his brother, Jose; and a host of nieces and nephews and aunts and uncles. He also leaves behind his dear friends, Irma Herrera, Trish Moran, Chuck Sanderson and countless others.

Rest in peace, my love, as we will meet again. ▼

### James R. Thompson

April 23, 1942 – Oct. 28, 1995

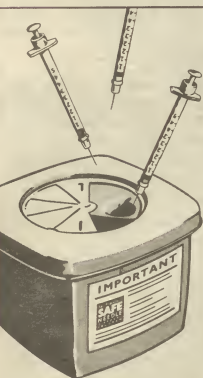
Jim, who brought the same tenacity that defined his college days as a civil rights and anti-war activist to his role as a leader of the San Diego AIDS community, died of complications from AIDS.

A native San Diegan, Jim took a B.A. degree in history at U.C. Berkeley. For the next 20 years, he divided his time between San Francisco and San Diego. While in San Francisco he helped implement the Versatel card at Bank of America. He returned to San Diego in 1984 to care for his ailing mother.

After testing positive in 1985, Jim devoted his life to the battle against AIDS. He was a founding member of Being Alive San Diego, which grew to a consumer advocacy and service organization of 1,300 members dedicated to empowering the HIV-positive and AIDS populations.

Jim wrote an 80-page consumer guidebook listing the resources available to those with HIV and AIDS. He was serving as staff coordinator of Being Alive's Peer Advocacy Program when he collapsed at work last August. His condition rapidly deteriorated thereafter.

Shortly before his death, Jim was honored by the San Diego AIDS Coalition. ▼



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# What Have Activists Done Lately?

by Bill Thorne  
ACT UP/Golden Gate  
Writers' Pool

**C**linical trials and their design have often been thought of as the exclusive province of researchers and academics, but AIDS activists have played a major role in improving trial designs and speeding drug development. The involvement of activists in these processes has been helpful and in some cases crucial. While activists have often been perceived as bulldogs, we are in fact the watchdogs of industry, research, and government. We articulate the voice of people living with HIV/AIDS, because our very lives and those of our loved ones are at stake — not our jobs. What follows is a snapshot of some ways activists have influenced HIV/AIDS research.

**Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria:** These are the conditions that allow a patient to participate in any given trial, such as T-cell counts, age, gender, other illnesses they may have, or medicines they may be taking. For example, Sero Laboratories had required everyone in a trial of human growth hormone for wasting syndrome to be on an approved antiretroviral drug such as AZT. How-

ever, most patients with wasting had exhausted approved treatments, and were taking the then-experimental d4t, which prevented their participation in the study. ACT UP/Golden Gate successfully fought to have the protocol amended to allow d4t use. Until they allowed d4t, Sero had enrolled just one patient in a year; after making the suggested change they signed up 170 patients in two weeks.

Activists also continue to fight the arbitrary exclusion of patients with less than 50 T-cells from most studies.

**Informed Consent Activists** routinely belong to Community Advisory Boards (CABs), which advocate for patients who participate in a particular hospital's clinical trials. Activists on CABs draft and revise informed consent documents, crucial papers that inform patients of the possible risks/benefits of participation in a particular trial.

**Placebo Controlled Trials:** Many researchers continue to believe the only way to conduct a trial is to give some patients the drug and others a placebo ("sugar pill"), and wait to see which group dies faster. However, activists have severely criticized this system, especially when other models are readily available. Sev-



Photo: Rick Gerhart

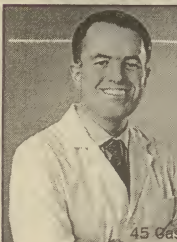
Flora lore: Although more famous as a cruising arena, the cafe at Market and Noe sts. was where three members of ACT UP/Golden Gate wrote the first-ever plans for accelerated approval and expanded access programs on the back of a placemat.

## Action Update

### Take Charge of Your Healthcare

ACT UP/Golden Gate is forming a new working group to teach patients self-advocacy. The group will meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6 p.m., preceding the regular Treatment Issues Committee, which meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

If you or someone you care about are experiencing a problem getting the treatment or healthcare you need, please join us in learning techniques you can use to get the best healthcare possible. The first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16th. For more information call 252-9200. ▼



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## Have You Ever Been Infected With Hepatitis A?

Former Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop has urged gay men to be vaccinated against Hepatitis A. Travelers to Mexico, the Caribbean, South and Central America, Africa, Asia, the Mediterranean basin, Eastern Europe and the Middle East are also at risk.

Hepatitis A is a viral infection of the liver which is transmitted through contaminated water and food, and by contact with other people infected with the virus. It is very common in developing countries, but occasional cases and small outbreaks occur throughout the United States. A new vaccine has been developed which is designed to prevent people from getting Hepatitis A.

If you are interested in receiving Hepatitis A vaccine, call Melanie or Susan now for an appointment or more information. One blood test can determine if you have ever been infected with the Hepatitis A virus and need vaccine.

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California Infectious Disease Associates

eral years ago, ACT UP/Golden Gate demonstrated at UCSF protesting a placebo controlled study for children. Not only was the trial design reconsidered, but two years later, the Principal Investigator of the study in question joined an ACT UP demonstration protesting the refusal of a drug company to supply drug for a mother-baby transmission study. Because of the work of ACT UP, HIV clinical trials are now designed to compare therapies against the prevailing standard of care, not a sugar pill.

**Crossovers and Endpoints Trials** have traditionally waited for "clinical endpoints" — instances of disease or death — to judge whether a drug is working. Whenever possible, ACT UP/Golden Gate activists have pushed for use of surrogate markers — blood tests or other indicators that can show if a drug is working without waiting for people to get sick and die.

Activists have also successfully fought to allow patients who have been in the placebo or control arm of a trial to have the chance to "cross over" and try the drug being studied, once enough comparison data has been collected. However, we must fight this battle over and over for each clinical trial.

**Drug Continuation:** Patients should be able to receive the study drug after a clinical trial is over, in the absence of safety or toxicity problems. If patients are benefiting from a drug and have their supply cut off when the study ends, the result can be loss of quality of life or an early death. This was the case with human growth hormone, the gp120 vaccine and the majority of other AIDS drugs. Because pharmaceutical companies are not required to supply the drug (even if it is working) to patients after a study has

concluded, ACT UP/Golden Gate has to fight for drug continuation in every single clinical trial. It is reprehensible that some companies do not voluntarily supply drug to needy patients.

**Combination Trials:** ACT UP/Golden Gate is currently working with both the Community Consortium (a group that organizes community-based studies) and the NIH to design feasible combination trials of multiple drugs for treatment of AIDS-related wasting syndrome. We are also represented on the CAB of the Inter-Company Collaborative providing input regarding combination antiretroviral research. (The Inter-Company Collaborative is a nationwide organization designed to help drug companies work together to study AIDS treatments.) In addition, activists' discussions with the Office of AIDS Research and AmFAR regarding multiple combinations and strategy trials are continuing.

**Alternative Access Mechanisms:** The whole concept of accelerated approval and expanded access to AIDS drugs came from AIDS activists in ACT UPs across the country, and their subsequent implementation came from community pressure, including meetings, zaps, and demonstrations. The first accelerated approval and expanded access programs ever created were written by three members of ACT UP/Golden Gate on the back of a placemat at Cafe Flora in San Francisco. They then petitioned and pressured the researchers and regulators into making those programs (for ddC) a reality. Bristol-Myers Squibb developed its expanded access program for d4t only after ACT UP/Golden Gate pressured the company to provide the drug to patients who did not qualify for the study. More recently, during Glaxo's 3TC expanded access

program, activists met with Glaxo to help address their supply problems and devise an ethical mechanism for insuring that patients with greatest need continued to receive drug.

ACT UP/Golden Gate activists continue to push for expanded access to drugs when the clinical trials are small, demand for the drug is high, and many patients will not qualify for trials studying the drug. Researchers must recognize that compliance in clinical trials is undermined when patients feel they must lie to get into a study because it is the only way of accessing a promising therapy.

Activists also play an ambassadorial role in **drug development**, shuttling between paranoid pharmaceutical companies and the overcautious FDA. Companies have found that they can save time and money by getting activist help in preparing their drug for approval. Members of ACT UP/Golden Gate and other groups have a great deal of experience in dealing with the FDA approval process — experience that can help speed a drug's approval when activists anticipate and help solve problems before the FDA ever sees them.

Since 1990, ACT UP/Golden Gate has joined forces with the breast cancer community to insure cancer patients are given the same opportunities as people with AIDS. Our success can be measured in the recent announcement that Genentech is starting a compassionate access program for a promising new breast cancer drug. ▼

**To learn more about how activists work, attend an ACT UP/Golden Gate General Body Meeting, the last Thursday of every month at 592 Castro (at 19th, upstairs), at 7:30 p.m.**

## Watters

Continued from page 19

now affiliated with the UCSF Institute for Health Policy Studies.

"I tend to think that it's important to look not only at how people live, but how they die," he said. "The way they die is descriptive of the way they live. Having worked closely with him, I'd have to say that in death as in life, John left a big mess for others to clean up."

ers to clean up."

Feldman said that Watters's fatal overdose must not be ignored or overlooked by leaders in the AIDS and public health fields, and efforts to gloss over Watters's substance abuse problems, deny the manner of his death, or romanticize his life "do not serve the cause of science, scientific inquiry or the search for truth."

University of California San Francisco Center for AIDS Pre-

vention Services director Tom Coates, Ph.D. agreed that substance abuse problems among professionals in the helping professions, including AIDS research and prevention professionals, are a fact of life.

"It's an ongoing issue of discussion and concern," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "What often happens, though, is that nobody knows what to do when the person next door to them has the problem." ▼



# New Crypto Medicine in Phase III Trials in Mexico

## Phase II Trials, Expanded Compassionate Access in U.S.

### PRNewswire

Unimed Pharmaceuticals, Inc. announced Wednesday, December 27 it has initiated Phase III clinical trials in Mexico to test the safety and efficacy of nitazoxanide (NTZ) in treating people with AIDS and cryptosporidium. The results are expected later this year, and will be used as supportive data for Unimed's New Drug Application to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration once U.S. trials, also underway, are completed.

Patients are now being recruited for the U.S. Phase II clinical trial, to be conducted at Cornell Medical Center in New York under the direction of Dr. Rosemary Soave, an internationally known cryptosporidium expert in Cornell's Department of Infectious Diseases.

The results are expected in the first half of 1996. If the findings are as positive as seen to date, Unimed intends to begin a Phase III clinical trial shortly afterwards.

In addition to the ongoing Phase II clinical trial, the FDA has allowed expanded access to NTZ for people with AIDS suffering from cryptosporidiosis.

The FDA action provides an open-label compassionate use protocol and expands access to the drug to patients who do not qualify for the controlled clinical trial. The data produced in the compassionate use protocol also will be available as supportive once a submission for approval is made with the FDA.

Unimed Pharmaceuticals develops and markets niche pharmaceutical products, with the so-called "AIDS market" currently representing about 75 percent of its revenues. The company is growing through in-licensing of other niche marketed and late-stage development products, but is best known for its marijuana substitute, Marinol.

"NTZ fits well with Unimed's current marketing of Marinol as an appetite stimulant in AIDS patients and with our intent to develop a newly licensed testosterone gel for HIV-wasting syndrome," said President and Chief Executive Officer Stephen M. Simes.

### Safe and effective

"Preliminary work in AIDS patients has shown [NTZ] to be safe and effective," Simes said. "To date, NTZ has been tested in over 1,000 patients outside the

U.S. and has been shown to be safe and effective in a variety of gastrointestinal infections. We look forward to the results of the ongoing clinical trial in order to begin our Phase III clinical trial in 1996."

Cryptosporidium parvum is a protozoan: a waterborne microscopic parasite first identified in humans in the late 1970s. It attaches itself to intestinal cells and causes profuse watery diarrhea. In healthy people, it is self-limiting and usually is not life threatening. However, it can last for weeks or months in an immune-compromised patient, and cause severe dehydration, weight loss, and even eventual death.

Cryptosporidium is spread through contact with contaminated food or water, or the stool of an infected person (including sexual contact) or animal. In 1993, an outbreak of cryptosporidium in Milwaukee caused sickness in over 400,000 people. At least 100 deaths were linked to that outbreak.

Estimates are that 45 million people in the U.S. may be exposed to drinking water from systems contaminated with cryptosporidium. Currently there is no approved therapy to treat it. ▼

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## QUEER WATCH

# The High Cost of Living

by Michael C. Botkin

**A**ll I wanted for Christmas was Human Growth Hormone. This is no mere stocking stuffer; the drug costs \$150 a day. And, if the manufacturer has in fact finished with its little delays and balks, I should be on the stuff by the time this column hits the streets. This is my best prospect for improved health — some would say my only prospect — so I'm not complaining. But it does make me wonder about how I or someone like me can expect to afford to stay alive in the coming years.

By the time you're eligible for HGH, you pretty much have to have bottomed out, lost so much weight that your survival has become problematic. In addition, you must have failed every available treatment for wasting: megace, marinol, food supplements, testosterone. So if you're qualified to get HGH, you've been through a lot and are certifiably a "dead meat special."

Even if you've survived this far, you still have to pay for the stuff. Most private insurers won't. My insurance, Take Care HMO (their motto: you'd better Take Care not to get sick!), won't. Fortunately, I'm also on MediCal. Until now I've only used it to fill in the little gaps left by my HMO, such as monthly crates of Advagra and acupuncture, but now I'll use it for real.

How long will MediCal pay out these big bucks for sick PWAs? Even if they're willing to — which will become more unlikely as block grants force states to

ration care — how long will they be able to afford the stuff?

I try not to worry about it, but I'm pretty sure that the manufacturer of HGH is royally hosing the consumer. Bovine growth hormone, which is chemically very similar to HGH, is produced at the cost of a few cents per gram. The charge for HGH via the new "cost recovery" program is \$25 per gram. Just how much profit is Seroquel getting from this deal — a thousand percent? Ten thousand percent?

They won't say, won't even hint. Like Burroughs-Wellcome, which never released figures for how much it made off AZT, they fear that if the public gets a whiff of what they're pulling in, they'll be deluged with protests.

### A Bit Grabby

The HGH situation is so outrageous because the cost is so high. But the problem of pharmaceutical profiteering is becoming the rule rather than the exception. For example, the recent FDA crackdown on Buyers Clubs' distribution of thalidomide rests on a compromise; the clubs will stop providing it when the manufacturer starts producing it for local PWAs. But oddly the "cost recovery" charge for the official manufactured product is almost three times what I currently pay for the underground product!

The underground product is bought over the counter in Brazil, flown back to the U.S. and distributed by mail. I suppose it's possible that the U.S. manufacturer is being ultra-careful and using unionized workers, but it strikes me as more likely that some executive is flying on the company jet to Rio and stocking up on thalidomide after enjoying a pleasant junkie. The extra cost is probably just hogging.

The problem is that the cost of AIDS treatment is widely accepted to be whatever the market will bear. With most products you can attempt to link the price to the production costs, and charging more than 10 or 20 times the cost of a drug is seen as a bit grabby. But, we're constantly reminded, there's research and development to be considered — although the exact costs of such are rarely mentioned. Given the potentially high cost of drug research and approval, it's assumed that the sky's the limit for drug price. Besides, the customers are desperate and have no place else to go.

This is true of most AIDS treatments, even the ones that don't work particularly well, like NAC and peptide T. Both of these, shortly after they got some good PR, saw drastically hiked-up prices. The fact that they weren't living up to early expectations was paradoxically lost in the shuffle of the raised price: if it costs so much, it must be good!

And all the really promising treatments, the ones that restore the immune system, like HGH or the

various infusion therapies where expanded or enhanced blood cells are pumped into a PWA, uniformly cost a fortune. Some of them are genuinely expensive, like any infusion therapy. Others are simply mysterious, like HGH. But they all cost an arm and a leg, enough to make any insurer balk and make me wonder if they could ever be adapted for mass use.

Of course, cutting-edge therapies like the baboon bone marrow transplant cost a fortune and will be limited to research use for some time. And I don't know that they'll ever come up with a budget baboon transplant.

### The Biggest Loser

If there were a referee working to keep the playing field level, the situation might not be so bad. But the Fed is asleep at the switch, and aside from the Republican anti-regulatory atmosphere reigning in Washington these days is the apparent assumption that industry knows best and that nothing must be done that will restrict its profits.

The biggest loser, other than the PWAs who die from withheld treatments, is the government, which ends up paying for most of these overpriced drugs via Medicaid, Medicare, and various assistance programs. When AZT cost ten grand a year, the Fed paid most of the bills. When aerosolized pentamidine was the "treatment of choice" to prevent PCP, even though it cost 20 times as much as a pill that in fact worked better, it was the government that picked up the tab. The specific drugs change, but the pattern remains the same.

So occasionally I wonder where it will all end. Any major financial disruption, like a stock market crash, will probably topple the whole system. So will any serious public unrest. Even without a major disaster, if things just keep drifting along their current path, the whole medical system should be hopelessly bankrupt in a couple of years.

Fortunately, my precarious state of health tends to discourage long-range trouble borrowing. Sure, MediCal may be out of money in a year, but without the HGH, I'll probably be dead in six months. So I just work on getting through the next six months, and if I'm still around, I'll deal with whatever situation I find. Why borrow trouble unless absolutely necessary?

Still, as my monthly drug tab continues to rise, I wonder how far it can go before life becomes a luxury too rich for me to afford. I know that the drug companies will do well; all the major pharmaceuticals have posted record profits in recent years, despite the presumably high cost of research. The odds that Glaxo-Wellcome or Roche or Merck is going to go belly up in the next few years are practically nil.

If only my prospects were so bright! ▼

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## HIV/AIDS File

Continued from page 17

Call Nelson Murcar at 476-9296, ext. 84092 for more information.

• Abbott Laboratories will begin an expanded access program for a protease inhibitor, ritonavir, in January. A lottery will be conducted to clear about 2,000 qualified patients over the age of 12.

Physicians and patients can call 1-800-414-AIDS for application forms and further information.

• The Inter-Company Collaboration for AIDS Drug Develop-

ment has announced a one-year clinical trial that will evaluate the antiviral and immunologic effects of two different three-drug combinations, in order to increase CD4 cells in HIV positive patients who have a CD4 cell count between 200 and 500 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>. ▼

**Local participating physicians are Dr. William Lang, ViRx, Inc., 1375 Sutter Street, San Francisco, 474-4440, and Dr. Robert Frascini, Sunnyvale Medical Clinic in Sunnyvale, (408) 524-5075. Call 1-800-925-AIDS for additional study center information.**



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Levy

Continued from page 5

meetings on the first and third Sundays of each month, and sponsors other social, cultural, and recreational events.

G40+ founder Jordan Lee told the B.A.R. the group often provides aid and support to others who are dealing with the loss of a spouse or other serious matters, but said the club is anything but "group therapy." Lee, who founded the club 22 years ago, described members as "socially active gay men who are very much interested in the world around them."

According to Lee, G40+ members are very concerned now with such important matters as educating healthcare workers and facilities about older same-sex couples, to reduce the incidence of painful forced separations; reducing HIV transmission among

the elderly population; and working to fight drastic cuts in Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security programs.

Levy is just one of several speakers scheduled to address the group in the following weeks. Historian Ken Miller, Reverend John Marsh, and Police Commissioner (and B.A.R. political editor) Wayne Friday will also speak on future Sundays throughout the year. ▼

**The G40+ Club meets at the First Unitarian Church, located at 1187 Franklin Street at Geary, from 2 - 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome and there are no fees. For further information call (415) 552-1997.**

**For further information and assistance with immigration, call:**

• **The Immigrant Assistance Line at (415) 543-6767**

**(for English and Spanish) and (415) 543-6769 (for English, Cantonese, Mandarin, and Japanese);**

• **The Lesbian and Gay Immigration Rights Task Force at (415) 392-6257 (for gay and lesbian immigrants);**

• **The Immigrant HIV Assistance Project of the Bar Association of San Francisco at (415) 267-0795 (for HIV-positive low-income immigrants);**

• **The Asylum Project of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission at (415) 255-8680 (for asylum seekers); and**

• **The Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Services at (415) 243-8215 (for everyone interested in fighting anti-immigrant proposals).**

### Oasis

Continued from page 5

the Bay Area Reporter.

"Bishop Righter is a symbolic person, around whom all the issues are gathered."

The Right Reverend William Swing, the Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of California, will also speak at the service, Charles told the B.A.R. Other participants include the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco.

The Oasis Ministry will pro-

vide pastoral care for lesbians and gay men, evangelical outreach, and advocacy within the Episcopal Church for the acceptance of lesbians and gay men.

Charles, an openly gay man, is the former Episcopal Bishop of Utah who came out recently after many years of closeted priesthood. ▼

**For more information about the service, or about Oasis programs, contact the group at (415) 522-0222.**

### Brown Inaugural Bash

The les/bi/gay/trans community is cordially invited to attend Willie Brown's inaugural reception party Monday, January 8th, from 6 to 10 p.m. at Pier 45. "This is our opportunity to join with all the other communities in our city in unity to forge the future," said community activist Pat Norman, a member of the Willie Brown Inaugural Committee. "Come out and be a part of history." ▼

## HEALTH & COMMUNITY

**ACT UP Golden Gate:** meets Tues. nights, 7pm at 592 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

**ACT UP SF:** committed to ending the AIDS crisis thru direct action. 1388 Haight St., #218 94117. Info: 522-2907.

**AIDS Benefits Counselors:** Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

**AIDS Community Research Consortium** conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

**AIDS Dementia Unit** at St. Mary's Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Ed Schultz, 750-4976.

**AIDS Health Project:** Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

**AIDS/HIV Nightline** provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

**AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group** meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 209 or 215.

**AIDS Treatment Education Network** provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS. 284-6237.

**Alternative Family Project** offers family counseling, support groups and events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 566-5683.

**Bay Positives:** Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

**Bereavement Groups** for family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

**Boy + Boy:** actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 431-2ACT xBOY.

**Clinica Esperanza, the HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center** provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

**Continuum HIV Day Services:** an adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Call 241-5500.

**Davies Med. Center:** Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. Info: 565-6369.

**Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services:** Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 572-9702.

**Extra Positives:** Social support

group for HIV+ men under 40. Info: 522-9477.

**FABRIC,** a support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/ x504.

**Gay Fathers Support Network** of Santa Rosa meets first Sun. of every month, 7pm. Info: Mark (707) 523-6941.

**Gay and Lesbian Tennis Federation** offers activities for players of all abilities, membership mtgs. monthly. Info: Donna at 282-2453 or e-mail dmckins@aol.

**Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic:** Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun. 5-7pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

**Gay Young Spirit,** a new spiritual/social group for gay men in their 20s & 30s, meets alternate Tues., 7:15pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

**Golden Gate Flyers:** gay, lesbian and bisexual pilots. 995-4338.

**Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox,** Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. Hector, 565-1909.

**Healing Alternatives Foundation** maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

**HIV Care** offers the latest clinical trials from the AmFAR community-based trial network and private industry, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

**HIV Positive Drop-in Group:** Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

**Immune Enhancement Project** treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8771.

**INVENTION** sponsors support groups for HIV negative men Tues. evenings, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 522-1785.

**Iris Center:** Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

**Kaiser Permanente Hospice** seeks volunteers to assist with patients with AIDS or cancer, 7-week training session begins in Jan. Info: 202-3173.

**Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program (LYFE):** Peer support and mentoring programs for lesbian/ gay/ bisexual/ transgender youth. 565-7681.

**Legal Services for Children's H.O.P.E. Project** provides social and legal services to low-income HIV affected families. Info: 863-3762.

**Linea de Ambiente:** Information,

referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi Latinos regarding immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

**The Mark Pope Career Counseling Center:** a non-profit career counseling agency serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities of the Bay Area. 760 Market St., Suite 962. 296-8024.

**MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group:** Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

**MWM:** a rap group for gay/bi Asian Pacific Islander men and their partners. Tues. nights, 6:30pm. Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420. 227-1586.

**Mothers Organizing Mothers** working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 922-4639 or 221-6651 for information.

**NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt** seeks volunteers for archiving, data entry, community outreach, sewing, more. Call Mike Moreno at 882-5500.

**Operation Concern's 18th Street Services** provides confidential HIV risk reduction education, and free HIV testing. 861-4898.

**Paradigm:** Models for Enhancing Life Near Death, serves the terminally ill, free 10-week support group in SF. Call for info: 522-9192.

**Positive Resource** provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

**Pride & Prejudice:** a welcoming group to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm, at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

**Project HOPE** offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

**Project Inform:** HIV/AIDS treatment info hotline, 558-9051; journal, and educational Town Meetings. 800-822-7422.

**Project Inform Update Town Meeting:** latest in protease inhibitors, treatments, advances, free. Thurs., Jan. 11, 7:30pm. UCSF Laurel Heights Auditorium, 3333 California. 558-8669.

**Veterans Affairs Medical Center SF** seeks volunteers to join its AIDS/ARC Volunteer Program. Volunteers visit patients in hospital and help in simple care tasks. Volunteers for AIDS Home Care and Phone Buddy Program are also needed. Contact Ronald Hunt, AIDS Volunteer Program Coordinator, VA Medical Center, 4150 Clement St., 750-2144.

**Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF** seeks volunteers to help provide care to people with AIDS, cancer. Training for new volunteers begins Jan. 23. Call 750-6800 x21699.

**Volunteer haircutters needed for**

HIV patient services at Davies Med. Cntr. Once a month, 3-hr. shift on Mon. Call Barbara at 565-6374.

**We Care Bay Area** provides emergency financial support to individuals affected by AIDS and other serious illnesses. Requests must be made thru a Bay Area outreach or social service agency. Info: 282-1911.

**Yoga for HIV** series Jan. 3-Feb. 28, Wed. 6:30pm at G.G. Metro. Comm. Church, 1508 Church. Reduce stress, create positive beliefs, meet long-term survivors. Call 752-6865.

**Send Health and Community Listings to:** Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

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# U.S. Company Establishes African AIDS Advisory Board

## Business Wire

Medical Discoveries, Inc. announced the creation of a six-member African-American advisory board on December 6 to oversee the testing and licensing of the company's anti-viral drug on the African continent.

The World Health Organization estimates that 8 million of the total 11 million HIV-positive cases worldwide are in sub-Saharan Africa, as well as more than 3 million of the world's 4.5 million people with AIDS.

"1.5 million of the world's 1.6 million children with AIDS are African," noted Medical Discoveries president Dr. William D. Welch. "Clearly this is the place to begin clinical trials of our treatment, because Africa is where the need is greatest. We are fortunate to have the guidance of experienced advisors, each of whom has a history of dedicated service to American and African relations in the sciences," he explained.

Chairman ex-officio of the new

advisory board, Welch is currently the principal investigator on an AIDS grant from the Centers for Disease Control and is actively involved in securing FDA approval for the company's anti-viral agent, MDI-P. He is joined on the new board by Drs. Delois Blakely, A.A. Kassa, Walter Royal III, Arthur Beau White, and Mr. Gary James. Due to their extensive experience with HIV/AIDS, White and Royal also serve on the company's scientific advisory board.

Now the current head of the New Futures Foundation and the designated Mayor of Harlem, Blakely is a former nun who has dedicated her life assisting the most helpful. A Fulbright scholar and graduate of Columbia University Teachers College, with a Master's degree in education from Harvard University, Blakely will coordinate all activities on the African continent as a presenter to the Organization for African Unity (OAU) and other organizations.

Former Governor of Selale Province and Principal Advisor

for the Ethiopian Department of Interior and the Ethiopian National Board of Health under the late Emperor Haile Selassie, Professor A.A. Kassa is a consulting professor of Research for Development to universities in Boston, Washington DC and New York. Kassa, a Master's graduate of King's Hall, College of St. Mary, Oxford University, also serves as chancellor and CEO of Christian Academies and Trinity Development Centre, New York.

A member of the National Institute of Health's AIDS Clinical Trial group, Dr. Walter Royal is a neurology consultant to Johns Hopkins AIDS Services and an attending neurologist at the Johns Hopkins AIDS Outpatient Clinic, as well as an assistant professor of neurology at Johns Hopkins University. Author of more than two dozen scientific articles, Royal's research has focused on the mechanism of nervous system damage related to HIV infection.

President and director of research at the Urban Health Insti-

tute in Kensington, Maryland Beau White has been a leader in community-based AIDS education programs in the U.S. and South Africa for more than ten years, following ten-year stints as a health scientist and administrator at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, and as a neurovirologist at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

James, the sixth member of the new advisory board, has an extensive background in policy communications between the U.S. and the African continent. He will serve as liaison and protocol officer for the new board.

To facilitate licensing, Medical Discoveries has granted right of first refusal, pending negotiations, to Riker, Inc., a newly formed pharmaceutical distributor to Africa. Riker is currently in discussions with senior health officials in Zaire, Uganda, and Mozambique looking to develop treatment protocols in their countries, preceding licensing of MDI-P to these nations. ▼

## Uruguayan Prostitutes To Get Pensions

Uruguay's Social Security Bank announced Friday, December 15 that the country's prostitutes are eligible for pensions and social security benefits.

The decision represented a victory for the Association of Professional Prostitutes of Uruguay, which has lobbied for such benefits for several years.

"Prostitutes working within the country and in total compliance with the laws regulating this activity" will have access to all programs offered by the country's social security bank, according to the ruling.

The status of both male and female homosexual prostitutes within the social security system was also referred to the bank's lawyers for further study. ▼

## REAL ESTATE

### The Only Gay Owned Agency on the Russian River.



Guess who's selling the River!

**ALL DONE** - 2 bedroom, 1 bath completely remodeled from foundation to roof. Looks brand new. Set up and away from the street in nice redwood setting. Easy parking and close to town. \$99,900

**EXCELLENT RESTAURANT BUILDING** - Wonderful freestanding restaurant building on slightly more than 1/4 flat acre. Ample parking, seats approx. 100 people, large kitchen, all fixtures, tables, chairs etc... located on beautiful and highly travelled Highway 116 between Guerneville and Monte Rio. \$259,000

**BROOKSIDE RESORT** - The #1 resort motel in the Russian River valley. 29+ rooms and owners quarters. Nicest in ground pool around. Full sun and grounds overlook miles of Korbel Champagne vineyards. All rooms fully remodeled in 1995. Would make a spectacular gay resort across the street from Fites Resort. \$1,400,00

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### A VERY SPECIAL PLACE

Situated on the banks of Austin Creek, this home features large rooms, Beautiful wood floors, 3 skylights, used brick fireplace, wall of glass to view the creek. Huge deck, steps to water, no flood! \$135,000.

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Low \$200,000's  
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## ESCAPE TO THE REDWOODS

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**Call Dan O'Flaherty**  
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**1-800-545-2010**

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California's Gay & Lesbian  
Real Estate Referral Service

**1-800-400-REAL**

### THE SUMMIT



### AUCTION!!!

17574 Summit Ave, Guerneville, CA  
Top of the world location. Views everywhere! Currently being used as a 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with separate 1 bedroom, 1 bath vacation rental. 3 Decks. Spa. Full Sun. Must sell!!!  
Open House January 6 & 7, 11am to 6 pm. Owner accepting sealed bids until 6 pm, Jan. 6. Was on market for \$229,000. Bottom line: +\$200,000. Will consider all offers!!!  
Call John at 1-800-795-5708.

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- ▼ HUNDREDS OF APTS. FLATS & HOUSES
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- ▼ PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1978
- ▼ 470 CASTRO STREET

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\$575, QUIET HILLTOP.  
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A Community! (510) 536-9229

\$620 Studio 745 Fillmore  
Hrdwood floors walk-in closets  
separate kitchen eating area  
Agt. 563-8671

\$550-\$695, 1 & 2 Bedrooms  
Lake Merritt area; many xtras!  
Call for Details!  
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Immaculate Sunny Twnhm  
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HIV+ M Seeks Room, apt house, pvt bath & entry. Safe clean area  
NS. John 585-8227



## JOB OFFERED

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**Winner Ford in Alameda** is looking for salespeople men and women to serve the Gay & Lesbian Community

**Call John Harke**  
**(510) 865-3673**

Wanted: Live in companion, aide, cook, light housekeeping, & help. Care for elderly gentleman. Own trans. A+ CADL a must. Alameda (510) 521-3167  
Pay Neg.

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Invest in your business!  
Use BAR Classifieds and watch your business grow!  
call 415-861-5019  
for rates and deadlines

### GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Designer needed for gay porn: Must be Windows literate and know Photoshop, Page Maker, Quark, Adobe Illustrator, as well as scanning and pre-press.

FOR MORE INFO. CONTACT JIM AT  
(415) 546-7955

### RETAIL SALES

Friendly, aggressive, well-groomed men & women sales associates needed for #1 adult video/gift stores. Various SF locations. \$6.00 per hour + commissions. Excellent advancement opportunities available. Apply 960 Folsom Street

**WALNUT CREEK**  
Needed Friendly, well-groomed Bartenders, Exp. preferred. Cooks for grill limited menu. Pick up an application at DJ's Piano Bar & Grill, 1535 Olympic Blvd.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974177

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of BIKRAM JIT BRAR for change of name. The application of BIKRAM JIT BRAR for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that BIKRAM JIT BRAR has filed an application proposing the name be change to VIKRAM BRAR. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department X-4 on the 17th day of January, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 30th day of November, 1995.

Dec 14, 21, 28, 1995, Jan 4, 1996.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200917

The following person(s) are doing business as NEW CHINA RESTAURANT, 272 McAlister St., San Francisco, CA 94102; BUU TANG DU, 365 Huntington Ave., San Bruno, CA 94066. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed BUU TANG DU. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Dec. 21, 1995.

Dec 28, 1995 Jan 4, 11, 18, 1996.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201017

The following person(s) are doing business as ABNER'S BARBER SHOP, 3359 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94110; ABNER ABE BOLLOZOS, 675 Hanover St., Daly City, 94014. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ABNER BOLLOZOS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Dec. 27, 1995.

Jan 4, 11, 18, 25, 1996.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974587

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of JUDITH ANN VIDERS for change of name. The application of JUDITH ANN VIDERS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that JUDITH ANN VIDERS has filed an application proposing the name be change to JUDY GOLDEN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department X-4 on the 15th day of February, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 15th day of December, 1995.

Dec 28, 1995, Jan 4, 11, 18, 1996.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 962794

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MICHAEL ANTHONY GERRARDO for change of name. The application of MICHAEL ANTHONY GERRARDO for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MICHAEL ANTHONY GERRARDO has filed an application proposing the name be change to ARIEL S. DUNEAX. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department X-4 on the 5th day of February, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 28th day of December, 1995.

Jan 4, 11, 18, 25, 1996.



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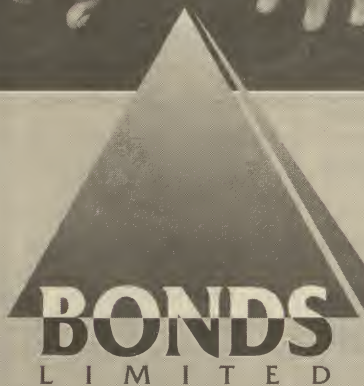
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Peter Adair

## Peter Adair Gets Frameline Award

Each year, Frameline, the producing organization of the annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, bestows its Frameline Award on an individual who has made significant contributions to gay and lesbian cinema. On January 8 (7:30 p.m.) at the Castro Theater, the 1996 Frameline Award will be presented to San Francisco filmmaker Peter Adair, a leader and innovator in gay and lesbian and documentary filmmaking. Frameline will honor Adair with a screening of his landmark 1977 film *Word Is Out*.

Frameline's tribute will also include clips from Adair's other films, including: *Holy Ghost People* (1967), an early film about religion; *Stopping History* (1983), a PBS documentary about anti-nuclear activism that reflected Adair's concerns about the threat of nuclear annihilation; *The AIDS Show* (1986), which he co-directed with Rob Epstein; and *Absolutely Positive* (1990), which examined HIV-positive men and women (including himself) and their struggle to come to terms with the disease.

The Frameline Award is presented annually by the Board of Directors of Frameline, the nation's only nonprofit organization dedicated to the distribution, funding, promotion and exhibition of lesbian and gay film and video. Past recipients of the Frameline Award include Vito Russo, Divine, Christine Vachon, Marcus Hu and Pratibha Parmar. For more information about this event, call 703-8650. ▼

## Word Is Out: Still a Poignant Plea for the Individual

# A Classic Revisited

by Gary Morris

Like any marginalized culture, queendom carries on its own constant internal debate: to separate or assimilate? Separation means embracing the inner pervert, celebrating the diversity in the community and welcoming everything from leather and drag queens to (gasp) NAMBLA chicken hawks. This unfortunately also invites ridicule, harassment, even murder by intolerant straights and the institutions they've set up to maintain power.

Assimilation, on the other hand, offers the tension-easing tableau of two men french-kissing on the streets of, say, Birmingham, Alabama. This rosy scene can only occur, it's argued, by showing the straight community that queers are exactly like them except in one little bitty way.

The ground-breaking documentary *Word Is Out* (1977) is sometimes considered one of the great works of assimilationism. Filmmaker Peter Adair's prior fame was based on a brilliantly incisive documentary about a group of snake-handling, strychnine-swilling religious fanatics in West Virginia. *Holy Ghost People*, made in 1967 when the filmmaker was only 21, shows one misfit's appreciation for another. Soon after the film was made, Adair came out of the closet.

In some ways, *Word Is Out* is the obverse of the *Holy Ghost People* coin. The zealots who put their lives on the line with snakes and poison unabashedly defend their outlaw status and talk in paranoid terms about the terrible world outside their ramshackle churches and narrow lives. Assimilation for these people would be blasphemy.

The 26 interview subjects of *Word Is Out* — most anyway — want to be part of the society around them. They grapple with a central question of their — and our — existence: why must "good" people, able and willing to contribute to society, have to fight for approval? Their confusion is understandable, since they're all attractive, accomplished, sensitive and highly articulate in discussing the most minute details of their lives.

Continued on page 36

## TheatreWorks' The Man Who Came To Dinner

# Queen of the Nile

by Chad Jones

You'd never expect it of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, the 1939 George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart comedy chestnut, but it's true. The play is a big, queer yuck fest, or at least it is in the new Theatre Works production currently on the boards at the quaint Lucie Stern Theatre in Palo Alto.

As written by the esteemed Messrs. Kaufman and Hart, *The Man Who Came to Dinner* (not to be confused with the Hepburn-Tracy opus *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* — that's a whole different kettle of fish), is a charming piece of Americana, an ode to their irascible friend and colleague Alexander Woollcott, who provided the inspiration for the play's main character Sheridan Whiteside. A member of the Algonquin roundtable, a critic, a wit, and a man with a flair for les bon mots, Woollcott was indeed a figure more than suitable for lampooning. And lampoon him his friends did.

What is so wonderful about this Theatre Works production is that director Tom Lindblade does not try to "butch up" the character of Whiteside. Woollcott was described, even by those who loved him, as effeminate, and Lindblade lets his star, George Ward, release his inner quippy queen to portray the bitchy Whiteside.

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George Ward in *The Man Who Came To Dinner*

Photo: David Allen

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## OUT THERE

by Pithy Galore,  
Justin Zane and  
Tessie Two-Step

**W**ell, we must say the response to the Out There 50 has been remarkably favorable. Well, you the readers did it yourselves, so you should be happy. Our apologies to the Machiavellian politico (well that excludes one or two possibilities) who thought we only selected the nastiest comments readers made about him/her. We actually chose the nicest ones!

As for that member of the arts community everyone feared would hit the roof when s/he saw s/he'd been included, we've heard nary a peep out of the knowledgeable one. Anyway, thanks one last time to the few hundred who sent in ballots and congratulations to the honorees.

**W**hile the rest of the world was trying to make sense of the Out There 50 list — your industrious columnists have been trying to figure out if the nekkid picture of the heartthrob movie star (clues: his lucky number this year is between six and eight) that has been floating around the Internet this past year is really real. We're just naive enough about digital manipulation to believe that he's a bigger star than we'd ever imagined. Phew! We'd show part of the picture, but the top half would get us sued and the bottom half is too graphic for this "family" newspaper.

**G**ina Gershon was delightfully nasty as a coke-sniffing bisexual-but-mostly-lesbian Vegas dancer in *Showgirls*, the campy NC-17 bomb by Paul Verhoeven and Joe Eszterhas. One lezzie-tinged role apparently wasn't enough for Gershon, who's next starring with Jennifer Tilly in *Bound*, "a thriller about two women in love who take on the Mafia," according to last week's *Variety*. The film premieres at the Sundance Festival later this month prior to a summer release. "The movie has a number of provocative and erotic moments," *Variety* reports.

**F**unny who winds up editing newspapers, isn't it? In the case of this fish wrap it hardly matters who's slapping things together, but when a large-circulation glossy hires an actor as editor you gotta wonder. The magazine in question is *POZ*, a journal for HIV-positive readers, and the actor no longer workin' the boards is David Drake, of *The*



Gina Gershon

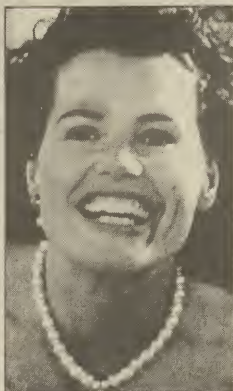
*Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* fame, "Much as I admire David as a performer," *POZ* publisher Sean Strub recently told the *Village Voice*, "I always felt he had a stronger career in writing and editing." Unprompted by Michael Musto, whose weekly column carried this item, Strub added, "David's not dizzy. I think he uses his blond chorus-boy countenance sometimes to very subversive advantage." Well, you'd better hope so, Sean.

Now don't get us wrong. We think David Drake is just great, but isn't David's big break in journalism just the one billionth time in the past few years that some unqualified person landed an important media position just because they are a face and a name? Misses Galore, Zane and Two-Step can think of at least three dozen homo scribes who are more qualified for such a job. But then our writer friends haven't been dating Mr. Strub.

**S**ir Ian McKellan is about to make his biggest splash yet in the movies with *Richard III*, opening here January 19. Advance word has it that McKellan's film characterization is as good as the one the 56-year-old actor brought to the London stage in 1990, even better, some say. But with homophobes

running so many fiefdoms in La La Land it's unlikely McKellan will win an Oscar for his portrayal (though he's certain to earn a nomination). Brits found him so moving as Shakespeare's cruellest villain six years ago he was awarded (for the fifth time) the Olivier Award, the British equivalent of the Tony Award.

In last week's *Parade*, McKellan had lots to say about being openly queer in the unhomofriendly entertainment industry. "I can't recommend it [coming out] strongly enough," said the actor about his coming out in 1989. "It really upsets me that so many actors, even established ones, are afraid." He also said that it's extremely difficult for young gay actors in Hollywood to be forthcoming about their sexuality. "Their agents, managers, producers, PR people say, 'It's going to ruin your career.'" To the contrary, says McKellan: "I get fan letters from women telling me I'm sexy and saying, 'I know you're gay.'" McKellan predicts that the first young film star to say, "I'm gay, I'm open about it, I won't play this game," is going to become a hero. We can only hope that McKellan is as talented a prognosticator as he is actor and enlightened spirit.



Geena Davis

**W**ord has it that Geena My-Lips-Are-So-Huge Davis dropped out of the remake of Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* because she thinks audiences would never think her old enough to play Lo's hopelessly needy mother. Well, that's the publicized version for Davis' jumping ship. The real

reason, we hypothesize, is that Davis knew she could never possibly compete with Shelley Winters, who, in Stanley Kubrick's 1962 *Lolita*, gave the movies an unforgettable screen portrayal. So who plays mama in the remake? Why, Melanie Griffith, who most people still think is a battery-operated haircut with boobs. (By the way, *Movieline* reports that Adrian Lyne's *Lolita*, which co-stars Jeremy Irons and 15-year-old Dominique Swain, delivers on all the smut that Kubrick's more irony-bound flick tastefully avoided.)

**J**anuary is here, and that means we have only six months to prepare for the '96 SF Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. To get us in the spirit of the thing, the Red Vic Movie House, on fabulous Haight Street,

is currently running its own miniature queer film fest. Nothin' new here, folks, but this is a good opportunity to review a few essential moments in queer cinema. Bruce La Bruce's *No Skin Off My Ass* (January 4) is among the highlights. In this XXX-rated film, director LaBruce plays a Karen Carpenter-loving hairstylist helplessly attracted to a lonely and stoic skinhead. Not to be missed if you're a fan of Mr. LaBruce's scintillating, albeit slightly wayward, aesthetic. John Waters' Polyester, Barry Shills' Wigstock, Ilppo Pohjola's Daddy and the Muscle Academy and A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde round out the program. For dates, times and information, call 668-8999. The Red Vic is located at 1727 Haight Street. ▼

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Ian McKellan in *Richard III*.



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## THEATRE



Byron Easley, Vincent Zamora, and Lucio Fernandez in *West Side Story*.

## West Side Story Boys' Town

by John F. Karr

I was going to tell you to go see *West Side Story*, currently at the Orpheum Theatre as part of an international tour, for the urgency of its score, the brilliance of its lyrics, the succinct mastery of its script, and the never-ending wonder of its staging and choreography.

But forget all that. See it for the boys. I can't think of another musical that features such a large bunch of guys without making them cute. Not here, child. In *West Side Story* the guys are butch, their T-shirts are tight, and they swagger and strut their lovely moments before our eyes. I was especially enamored of the Riff, a son-of-Russ-Tamblyn redhead named Jamie Gustis. He can't sing on key but is excused for his propulsive attack on his role, as well as his

considerable sexual appeal. I was awfully fond, too, of the Puerto Rican contingent. They get to slick back their shiny black hair and wear violent colors.

There's also Scott Carollo's Tony, perhaps the best I've ever seen. Carollo is six-feet tall, muscular, handsomely boyish, and is a vibrant, exciting singer. Unlike most Tonys, he can act.

If there are no stars of tomorrow among the cast, there isn't a weakness in this winsome company. Directed by Alan Johnson, this *West Side Story* is a faithful-enough reproduction of the original, a collaboration of four theatrical legends — director/choreographer Jerome Robbins, librettist Arthur Laurents, composer Leonard Bernstein and lyricist Stephen Sondheim. What we encounter in this nearly 40-year-old classic is a show so rich in its

combination of words, music and dance that it was not only ahead of its time when new but is still quite a surprise. This is a swell New Year's offering from the Best of Broadway series. ▼

**West Side Story continues at the Orpheum Theatre through January 21. Don't miss the West Side Story AIDS benefit on Monday, January 15. Proceeds will benefit Under One Roof and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. The event takes place at the famed Club Fugazi, 678 Green Street, home of Beach Blanket Babylon. Tickets range from \$10-\$30 and are available at Under One Roof or by calling 421-4222.**



Photo: David Allen

## More of Mona

**Y**ou thought Mona Rogers was a thing of the past? Consigned to the trash heap of his or herstory? Well, think again, people! The truly Divine Miss M's final run has been extended to February 3 at the Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason Street, in beautiful downtown San Francisco. Rumor has it that the once semi-dazzling former burlesque queen, seen here tussling with archnemesis Little Fatty, was looking forward to a richly deserved retirement, but you, her insatiable fans, just couldn't get enough of her wicked wit and wisdom. Worship at the altar known as Mona Rogers (a.k.a. Helen Shumaker) one last time before her long, painful, gin-soaked slide into oblivion begins. Tickets (\$16-\$18) are available by calling 415/956-8497. ▼

—Patrick D. Hostel





The Man Who Came to Dinner

## Queen of Nile

Continued from cover

As a distinguished radio personality with a barbed tongue and a scathing wit, Sheridan Whiteside is a force of nature. Having slipped on some ice and broken his hip while on a lecture tour, Whiteside is confined to a wheelchair and is forced to spend the Christmas holiday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Stanley, a well-to-do couple in the small berg of Mesalia, Ohio. The clash of the worldly Whiteside and the meek Mesalians provides ample opportunity for Whiteside to bark his queenly insults. When an adoring lady fan presents Whiteside with some of her famous calf's foot jelly, Whiteside barks, "Made from your own foot, I have no doubt!"

Whiteside saves his most acid remarks for Miss Preen, his attending nurse. When "Miss Bed Pan," as he so affectionately refers to her, prevents him from eating chocolate, he turns his venom on full throttle. "My great-aunt Jennifer ate a whole box of candy every day of her life. She lived to be a hundred and two, and when she had been dead three days she looked better than you do now."

Whiteside, or Sherry, as he's known to all his famous friends, is a grand role for an actor, and Ward assays — or sashays — it brilliantly. Kaufman and Hart were fully aware that their audience would not take kindly to an acid personality for two hours, so they turn Whiteside into a fully-rounded character by displaying his weaknesses and his soft heart. The bulk of the play concerns Whiteside's conniving attempts to prevent Maggie, his beloved assistant, from falling in love with Jefferson, the small town newspaper man. His devious plan to make the writer fall in love with celebrated stage actress Lorraine Sheldon (based loosely on Gertrude Lawrence) fails, but the attempt is thoroughly entertaining.

Though Whiteside — and Ward's bold, queenly portrayal of him — takes hold of center stage and never relinquishes it, the rest of the cast is just as captivating, and the laughs never cease.

Julie Eccles as Maggie the put-upon personal assistant is both sharp and tender. She knows Sherry's game and is just as adept at playing dirty. Mark Hurty's Noel Coward-like Beverly Carlton is a suave, witty bon vivant who breezes in, casts a few quips, sings a ditty and breezes out. Rebecca Dines as Lorraine Sheldon is an utter sparkling delight. Her Lorraine is a composite of every glamorous, scheming, gorgeous, whoring starlet imaginable. Dines's every movement is borne of exquisite comic timing and dis-

plays the detail that director Lindblade has brought to this wonderfully entertaining play. Who would have guessed that it would take a suburban theater company to put the queen back into Americana? ▼

**The Man Who Came to Dinner continues at the Lucie Stern Theatre in Palo Alto through January 7. Call 903-6000 for information.**

## It's Raining Pianists

Pianists are the flavor of the month in the Bay Area. Two international celebrities of the keyboard arrive here next week, Horacio Gutierrez (right), who will perform with the San Francisco Symphony January 10-13 at Davies Symphony Hall, and Emmanuel Ax, who has scheduled a recital at Herbst Theatre on January 9. Grammy-nominated Gutierrez will perform Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major on a program that also includes Dvorak's *Carnival Overture* and Josef Suk's *Fairy Tale Suite*. Libor Pesek is the guest conductor. Ax's program, sponsored by San Francisco Performances, includes the Bach/Busoni Chaconne; Schubert's Impromptu in B-flat major, D. 935; Copland's Variations; Chopin's Variations Brillantes, Opus 12; and Brahms' Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Opus 24. Both performances are at 8 p.m. Ticket prices vary. For information, call the San Francisco Symphony at 864-6000, and San Francisco Performances (for Ax) at 392-4400. On Sunday, January 14, Gustavo Romero will give a recital at Davies Symphony Hall (2 p.m.) of works by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Chopin, Maratka and Debussy. Call the SF Symphony for tickets.



On the same day in the East Bay, San Francisco pianist Seth Montfort will perform ragtime-inspired works by Joplin, Debussy and Gershwin. This 40-minute recital is at 1 p.m. at the Giorgi Gallery, 2911 Claremont Avenue in Berkeley. The recital is repeated at 3 p.m. at the MCC Church, 150 Eureka St. in San Francisco. Later in the month, Bay Area pianist Julie Steinberg will perform works by John Cage and Olivier Messiaen at (3:15 p.m.) Berkeley's First Unitarian Church, 1 Lawson Road in Kensington. For information, call 841-7721. ▼

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## Dramma Per Musica Dusts Off Mozart's *Il Re Pastore* Mozartean Magic

by Paul Thomason

**B**ay Area opera lovers will receive a belated holiday gift next week when Mozart's rarely performed opera *Il Re Pastore* will be given by the new group Dramma Per Musica. Concert stagings of the work will be performed Friday, January 12 at San Francisco's Randall Museum Theater (8 p.m.) and Sunday afternoon, January 14 in Berkeley at St. John's Presby-

terian Church (5 p.m.).

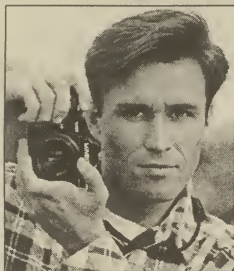
*Il Re Pastore* (*The Shepherd King*) will feature countertenor/male soprano Randall Wong as Aminta, a role the 19-year-old Mozart wrote for the castrato Tommaso Consoli. Sopranos Judith Nelson (Tamiri) and Beth Hatton (Elisa) and tenors Colby Roberts (Alessandro) and Ching Chang (Agenore) complete the cast. Warren Stewart will conduct a period orchestra.

"Perhaps one of the reasons

*Pastore* is so seldom done is because it's a very demanding opera," suggests Ching Chang, executive director of Dramma Per Musica. "There are so many show stoppers in it. All three sopranos have very difficult arias, and so does one of the tenors, so it's hard to cast."

Chang searched through the Opera Schedule Server on the Internet which lists all the performances given by professional companies in Europe, but "despite thousands of performances of Mozart's operas," he says, "there wasn't a single *Il Re Pastore*." Dramma Per Musica decided the work would be the perfect way to introduce the group to the public. "*Pastore* is something fresh for the audience, but it's Mozart, so [we knew] people wouldn't be afraid of it. And also Randall Wong has been singing Aminta's arias in concert for a while, and he agreed to sing the title role," says Chang. Wong, a former member of the San Francisco-based singing group Chanticleer, played three different roles in the Houston and New York City Opera productions of the opera *Harvey Milk* in 1995.

"In San Francisco we have a fairly knowledgeable audience, but we don't have good performances of small chamber operas. There are a lot of community opera groups who do scaled-down versions of the standard repertoire, and the performance standards vary," Chang explains. "We want to do good quality, professional performances of pre-19th century operas and modern operas." Inter-



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PHOTOGRAPHY

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Randall Wong

nationally renowned mezzo Fred-erica Von Stade is honorary chairperson of Dramma Per Musica.

Next on the group's agenda is a fully staged performance of Antonio Cesti's 17th century opera *Orontea*. After that the group plans to present a modern work. Chang says it is "quite possible" Dramma Per Musica will commission an opera. "It's just a matter of finding the adequate funding."

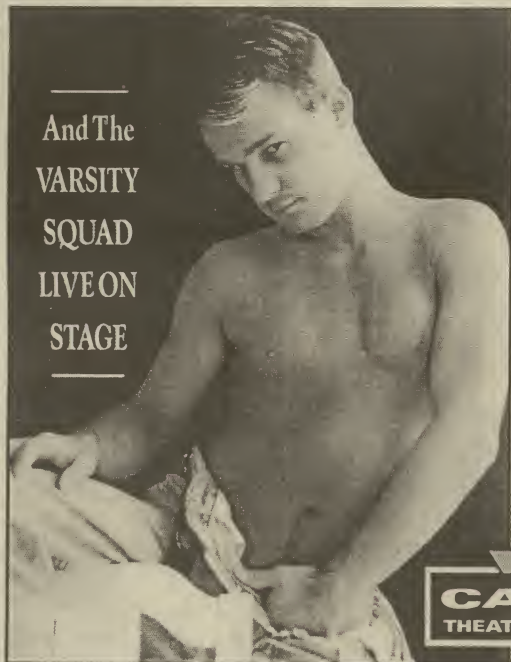
*Il Re Pastore* was written by Mozart in 1775 for a visit to Salzburg by Archduke Maximilian (the last child of Empress Maria Theresa), who was on his way to Paris to visit his sister, Marie Antoinette. It is the tenth of Mozart's 19 operas and almost nothing is known about its first performance on April 23. "It's not really an oratorio," Chang says, "yet in terms

of theatrics, visually it doesn't offer very much. The music is what really stands out in this piece." ▼

**Tickets for *Il Re Pastore* are \$25 for preferred seating, \$16 general admission, \$12 for seniors and students and are available at The Musical Offering in Berkeley, by phone at (415) 435-8626, or by writing to Dramma Per Musica at 600 Page Street #206, San Francisco, CA 94114. The Randall Museum Theater is at 199 Museum Way near Corona Heights in San Francisco. St. John's Presbyterian Church is at 2727 College Avenue in Berkeley near the UC Berkeley campus.**

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Portrait of Mozart (1816) by Barbara Krafft.



# Casting the *Second Stone* Gay Christians Fight on Two Fronts

by Wayne Hoffman

**T**is the season when self-proclaimed Christian spiritual leaders spread ho-ho-homophobia with their holiday cheer. But tens of thousands of gay men and lesbians know the term "Gay Christian" is not an oxymoron, and a handful of national publications have emerged to drive home that point.

"To me, we have one of the truest Christian struggles, because we've been persecuted like Christ and felt the oppression, and we have been embraced by Christ, who always embraced the outcasts," says Jim Bailey, editor and publisher of *Second Stone*.

While religious and spiritual issues form the core of *Second Stone's* coverage, Bailey includes large doses of politics in his newspaper. Anti-gay political rhetoric from right-wing Christians was one of the catalysts for starting the paper in 1988, and Bailey still sees political rebuttal as part of his mission, as the paper's title suggests.

"I thought of the New Testament story where Jesus told the crowd to let those among you without sin cast the first stone," Bailey says. "I felt like the church had certainly cast the first stone toward us as a community and that this would be the response to the hatred coming out of the church toward gay people."

Based in New Orleans, *Second Stone* has a national circulation of 3,000. The 24-page bimonthly features a mix of news, features and personal essays. Subscribers

cover nearly all of the paper's costs, since advertisers have proven hard to find, a situation mirrored in every other gay Christian publication.

"We get very little money from advertising revenue, because it's very politically incorrect," Bailey says. "We can't get gay advertisers to advertise in a Christian publication, and we can't get Christian advertisers to advertise in a gay publication."

Most of the gay community is wary of anything connected to the word "Christian" lately, opines Mary Jo Osterman, editor of *OpenHands* magazine. So gay Christian publications frequently meet with strong resistance in larger gay circles.

"The gay community is not always very accepting of people who are trying to connect with their faith communities," says Osterman. "When they talk about Christianity, they're talking about the worst of the conservatives and the radical right. I still find that overwhelmingly the secular gay community is not even aware of the welcoming church movement."

## Open hands and hearts

The welcoming church movement, which dates back 20 years in some cases, is composed of organizations affiliated with major Protestant denominations that are attempting to make mainline churches more open around issues of sexuality. Launched 10 years ago by the United Methodist-affiliated Reconciling Congregation



Photo: T.L. Litt

"We can't get gays to advertise in a Christian publications, and we can't get Christian advertisers to advertise in a gay publication." — Jim Bailey, editor of the bimonthly *Second Stone*.

Program in Chicago, *OpenHands* became an interdenominational ecumenical publication in 1992 and is now supported by several groups; over 600 welcoming churches are listed in *OpenHands*. Each issue of the 32-page quarterly, which counts 2,600 subscribers, includes essays, personal reflections and liturgy on a specific theme; prejudice, diversity and pride have all been recent topics.

While *Second Stone* is aimed at gay Christians struggling with their faith, *OpenHands'* primary target is churches struggling with prejudice.

"The question about reconciling being gay and Christian is the

wrong question," says Osterman. "I think the more appropriate question is whether the church can reconcile being Christian and homophobic. You've got to put the emphasis where the problem is. The problem lies with the Christian church."

Faced with institutionalized homophobia in mainstream churches, many gay Christians respond by joining gay-specific churches. The Metropolitan Community Church, founded more than 25 years ago and now serving over 30,000 members nationally, is the most visible and powerful example. Reverend Nancy Wilson, MCC's vice moderator, recalls

MCC's own efforts at sustaining a national publication.

"We had our own magazine a few years ago — *Journey Magazine* — but again we couldn't get that circulation," says Wilson, who cites interdenominational territorial issues as a major impediment to the survival of national publications whose circulations remain stunted. MCC still puts out an in-house newsletter, but Wilson foresees no wider publications in its future.

While Wilson agrees that the ultimate goal of gay Christians is to battle homophobia in major churches, she sees gay churches as a necessity, since the voices for change are still so heavily outshouted by homophobic mainline leadership.

"Progressive Christian voices are desperately needed in our time," says Wilson, whose book *Our Tribe: Queer Folk, God, Jesus and the Bible* was recently published by HarperCollins. "In a lot of the mainline straight churches, the progressive voice is so weak and lacks so much courage that we have to say there's not one way to interpret the Bible, or Christianity, or religion."

## Complementary approaches

Whether the emphasis is on creating new churches or working within existing ones, Wilson and Osterman agree that the two approaches are complementary.

"I think the larger understanding of the Christian community ul-

Continued on page 38

## MUSIC

# Alien Techno from Eat Static



by Adrian Roberts

**M**erv Pepler and Joie Hinton listened to a lot of '70s psychedelic prog rock when they were younger, which probably explains the cheesy "alien world" album art on Eat Static's 70-minute American debut, *Epsilon*. But it also helps explain why this British duo is making some of the most interesting and dynamic techno to come out in recent years.

Unlike most dance music, which seems to just pound the same groove over and over again into oblivion, Eat Static keeps you both on your feet and on your toes. Their ever-changing sounds and melodies keep things kinetic, and it's no surprise that Pepler and Hinton used to be members of Britain's premier space rock band, Ozric Tentacles.

While their previous band's psychedelic element is still present, as evidenced by the Middle Eastern-sounding melodies and trippy space sounds, they're now being mixed in with pounding dance beats and sci-fi movie samples, along with a myriad of other blips and boops that sound sort-of like alien transmissions from distant worlds. Which is, of course, exactly the idea. ▼

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## THEATRE

# The Return of 'Carrie'



Photo: Marc Geller

**T**he Sick and Twisted Players, those intrepid masters of the art of bad taste, return to the New Conservatory Theatre this month for a spectacular restaging of *Carrie*, which they've loosely adapted from the 1976 Brian DePalma film and Stephen King's best-selling novel. SF director Tony Vaguely promises this classic coming-of-age horror tale will be a tour-de-force of acting, special effects and mind-numbing campy.

The Sick and Twisted Players presented *Carrie* in March of 1992 to rave reviews. This revisiting of that successful run will feature most of the original cast — Michael G. Page, Deena Davenport, Don Baird, Kathy Queer, Johnny Kat, Kyle Overstreet, Alex Meconi, Danielle Willis and special celebrity guest stars. The Sick and Twisted Players will pull out all the stops with this production (patrons will receive a "Carrie kit" featuring a bag of *Carrie* souvenirs which are meant to be thrown at the actors on cue). *Carrie* runs Thursday thru Saturday, January 5 through February 3 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8-\$15. The New Conservatory Theatre is at 25 Van Ness Avenue. For tickets and information, call 861-8972. ▼

## FILM

### Peter Adair

Continued from cover

*Word Is Out* is divided into three sections: "The Early Years," "Growing Up," and "From Now On." But these divisions are almost irrelevant, as the same themes crop up in all of them: self-doubt and self-respect, repression and realization, isolation and community. The composite portrait in *Word Is Out* is a dual one: individual and social. We learn as much about gay culture as about the lives of the people interviewed. Who are these people? Some are familiar faces to our community: Tede Matthews, George Mendenhall, Pat Bond, Rick Stokes, Harry Hay.

Tede Matthews, alluring in multicolored blouse and nose ring, discusses his "early drag feelings" and pointedly reminds us that "all clothes are drag." George Mendenhall tells us about his teenage years as a sexual aggressor with men in their 40s and 50s. He poignantly recalls a drag queen named Jose, who performed camp operas every Sunday at The Black Cat, an early (1952-53) gay bar. But these seemingly frivolous exercises always ended on a starkly activist note as Jose led a defiant sing-in of "God Bless Us Nellie Queens!" and incited patrons to "Come out!



Photo: Janet Cole

Mariposa Film Group in 1977 (clockwise from lower left): Lucy Massie-Phenix, Veronica Selver, Nancy Adair, Peter Adair, Andrew Brown and Rob Epstein.

Unite!" Pat Bond offers droll descriptions of lesbian military life, particularly the rigid behavior codes within her group: "You were only allowed to wear Old Spice and Jockey shorts!" Politico Rick Stokes recounts his terrifying encounters with electro-shock therapy. Like others in this film, Stokes became an activist as a result of early negative experiences.

The film gains in complexity by allowing its subjects to question the filmmakers' agenda. Elsa Gidlow, in her late 70s, says bluntly: "You want to fit me into a structure that you have — this happens to be a character who doesn't want to be pushed around." This same woman, a poet, expands the film's focus

when she says she's always had "a rather deep sense of aloneness ... even in love ... a rather deep sense of the solitude of the individual in the cosmos."

While a film that features mostly well-scrubbed, well-educated, non-threatening, bourgeois homosexuals who could pass for your suburban neighbors would seem to be the perfect assimilationist tool, *Word Is Out* emerges — even 18 years after its release — as a poignant plea for the individual. Peter Adair once said, "If you are going to have [a film made up of] talking heads, which is taboo, they've got to be good ones." *Word Is Out* features an unusually large number — 26 — of "good ones." ▼

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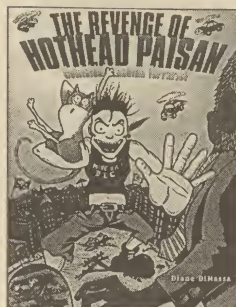


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## A Hero for Our Times

*The Revenge of Hothead Paisan: Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist*  
by Diane DiMassa; Cleis, \$16.95

by Deborah Peifer

Let me tell you that the sight of Chicken in a fez is worth the price of Diane DiMassa's new collection, *The Revenge of Hothead Paisan*, alone. If you don't know who Chicken is, clearly you are a Hothead virgin, and you have a real treat in store.

Hothead Paisan is my hero. Armed with a chainsaw, an axe, or a .357 magnum, Hothead seeks not only to right wrongs, but also to annihilate wrongdoers. I think of myself as a nonviolent person, and that may be why I find Hothead so satisfying. Her torture of three rapists (and her creative use of a guillotine) is particularly enjoyable.

But this collection of Hothead cartoons features more than just incredibly gratifying destruction of the patriarchy. In addition to the fez I mentioned earlier, there are also the beginnings of a genuine romance for Ms. Paisan. DiMassa does a wonderful job creating the intense awkwardness of the first meeting and the first date. Hothead's trip to meet her new love's family is especially well-done. Hothead has her darker side, though, and DiMassa does a remarkable exploration of suicidal depression.

*The Revenge of Hothead Paisan* is a wonderfully funny, painfully honest, deeply moving collection. Buy it for someone you love. ▼

## Tedious and Touching

*Queer View Mirror: Lesbian and Gay Short Short Fiction*  
edited by James C. Johnstone and Karen X. Tulchinsky; Arsenal Pulp, \$17.95

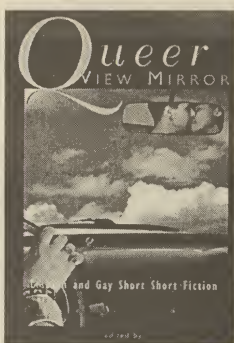
by Deborah Peifer

The story in *Queer View Mirror* that you will want to read in the bookstore is "The Bear" on page 206. In one page, Leslea Newman recaps the history of a relationship from the earliest raptures to its dark ending. No kidding, this is an amazing one-page novel.

The rest of this collection is wildly uneven, ranging from the tedious to the touching, with all manner of emotions in between. I found myself wondering just how much editing James C. Johnstone and Karen X. Tulchinsky actually



Diane DiMassa and Chicken



did. That the stories are arranged alphabetically by author, rather than by some coherent editorial overview, suggests they did very little indeed.

That's too bad, because there are some fine pieces here. Maureen Brady's "Intimacy Inventory" is a wry look at what constitutes intimacy and how the definition changes from relationship to relationship. Allen Borcharding's "Yente" will break your heart.

In addition to my problems with the apparent lack of editing, I must take serious exception to the editors' decision to publish three writers under pseudonyms. I strenuously object to rewarding with publication anyone in the closet. I know all the arguments for hiding, but I think that no one in this horrific and threatening world has the right both to remain hidden and to be published in an anthology of gay and lesbian writing.

The only safety in this world is in numbers, and the only way all of us can be free is when all of us are out of the damned closet. *Queer View Mirror* clearly needed an editor with some courage. Maybe next time. ▼

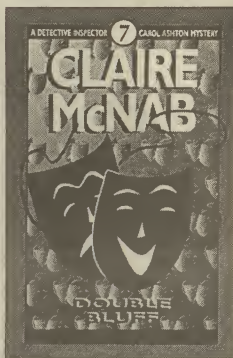
## The Real Thing

*Double Bluff* by Claire McNab; Naiad, \$10.95

by Deborah Peifer

Of all the horrors that 20th century life has visited upon us, I think the stalker is the most terrifying. The idea that a demented individual can decide to harass, torment, and threaten with, despite some changes in the law, relative impunity is way beyond creepy. Claire McNab's latest, *Double Bluff*, is a very scary look at the mind of a stalker, and the havoc he wreaks on both his victim and those around her. Detective In-

spector Carol Ashton is investigating the mysterious death of Tala Orlando. Ashton's superiors want a verdict of suicide or accidental death, and they want it immediately. Ashton, however, suspects murder. At the same time, Ashton's occasional lover, Madeline Shipley, is being stalked by a frightening stranger whose declarations of undying love veil a sinister intention. Are the cases linked? Who is the real target of the threats? What is Ashton to do when the threats expand to include her family as well as herself? And what is Ashton to do when she learns that her lover, Sybil, is coming back to Australia, possibly to resume their relationship? *Double Bluff* may be McNab's best, or at least her darkest, mystery. She creates believable characters in credible, albeit terrifying situations. Read this with all the lights on, an attack cat on your lap, and all the doors double-bolted. But read it. ▼



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*Drag Queen* author Robert Rodi

## This Queen's A Drag

*Drag Queen* by Robert Rodi;  
Dutton, \$21.95

by **Trey Graham**

**T**hose black-and-blue marks? Oh, those are from the elbow Robert Rodi kept digging into my ribs as I read through his latest novel, *Drag Queen*, which, oddly enough, is about a neurotic Chicago lawyer.

Oh, sure, our hero discovers a long-lost twin brother in the first chapter, and this missing doppelganger turns out to be an outrageously fashionable creature named Kitten Kaboodle, who spends off hours singing morbid torch songs at a drag dive just across town. But the central figure, for some reason, is this oh-so-prim, oh-so-dull real estate lawyer named Mitchell, who thinks of himself as an "'80s leftover," an "ambitious careerist," a "typical cut-from-the-mold guppie." Even the most tenderhearted New Age non-capitalist will find it difficult to care about a character whom the author himself so patently dis-

likes — even if, before the novel's entirely predictable conclusion, he does learn all the standard lessons about appreciating diversity and letting down his hair.

After Mitchell's mother spills her secret in a transitory fit of dharma consciousness, Mitchell sets out to meet his twin. Having idealized his brother, who goes by Donald in the daylight, as a "stronger, better version of himself," Mitchell is a little surprised to find out he's a hand model and nightclub singer. But he keeps his hopes up, imagining "a witty, worldly Noel Coward type in a smoking jacket and bow tie, singing patter songs and French ballads." Silly elitist; imagine his shock when, perched on a barstool in the Tam-Tam Club, Mitchell realizes that the elaborately gowned woman with the big yellow bouffant and "eyelashes like paintbrushes" — the one growling her way through "Cry Me a River" — is the man he's come to meet.

So begins a determined rehabilitation campaign, with Kitten as its subject. Mitchell, vowing to get

his brother "off this drag thing and into a real, respectable lifestyle," starts with condescension and works his way up to kidnapping and a dead-of-the-night cult-style deprogramming session. Because this is a Rodi novel, things go terribly awry and a great many unlikely situations arise. Again, because this is a Rodi novel, most of the plot snarls are sorted out in an unsatisfying, desultory fashion.

Rodi, who has previously contributed the reasonably witty *Fag Hag*, the mildly amusing *Closet Case*, and the thoroughly wretched *What They Did to Princess Paragon* to the gay literary canon, doesn't do himself any real harm with *Drag Queen*. It's certainly not dreadful, merely undistinguished — the sort of book that makes one wonder how many novels his Dutton contract called for and when exactly they were due. ▼

**Trey Graham** writes for *The Washington Post*, *The Village Voice*, *The Advocate* and other publications. He lives in Washington, D.C.

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## Second Stone

Continued from page 35

timately says that the church at large has to struggle with this and come to terms with its homophobia and heterosexism," Osterman says. "But in the meantime, any place that's open and affirming and allows Christian gays and lesbians to practice their faith is crucial. We're all doing one thing: we're all creating safe space."

Christine Nusse, editor of *Images*, the magazine of the Conference for Catholic Lesbians, sees the two strategies operating not only side-by-side, but also in tandem.

"It's a very difficult thing to go into the larger church about these issues," says Nusse. "The idea is to get a separate place where we can regroup and address these issues, and have enough energy after that to go on to a larger platform. But without that first platform, it's very difficult to do anything."

*Images* is supported by CCL members, and its quarterly circulation hovers around 500. The issues of concern to the CCL are often specific to the Catholic Church, and larger women's issues sometimes supersede gay issues, says Nusse.

Battling homophobia and sexism in the Catholic Church seems an indomitable task for such a small publication, and Nusse says lesbians outside the CCL often see the struggle as hopeless. "They ask us, 'Why bother?' There is no hope. Why are you spending energy on that when there are a lot of other issues in the women's movement?" Nusse says. But she argues that those who question the value of the movement aren't looking at the people who actually make up the Catholic Church. "People address us from the point of view of the structure of the institution, and we answer on the level of the community and the heritage and the faith."

Bailey sees Protestant churches in a similar light, noting that anti-gay rhetoric from fundamentalists doesn't reflect the feelings of most Christians.

"I feel a great deal of hope and support from people in the mainstream church," says Bailey. "They understand where we're coming from and say yes, there is a need in this community for justice and compassion." ▼



# Tennessee On My Mind

by Erin Blackwell

*Tom: The Unknown Tennessee Williams* by Lyle Leverich; Crown, \$35

For anyone who still thinks art comes cheap, or that theater reduces to entertainment in its most wooden form, or even possibly that a man cannot love a woman, there is Lyle Leverich's *Tom: The Unknown Tennessee Williams* to argue the contrary.

The story opens on February 25, 1983, the day Williams choked to death on a pill bottle cap that inadvertently choked some barbiturate secombital down his throat. Although Leverich calls the accident "a bizarre death [Tennessee]

might have written for a character in one of his plays," Williams was not the heartless ironist God is. The playwright's onstage doppelgangers, when they had to die, were treated to last fantasy flings, like Sebastian in *Suddenly Last Summer*, whose body was sacrificed to a gang of young boys in a place called Cabeza del Lobo (Wolf's Head).

Whether or not the reader agrees with Leverich's occasional takes on the material he has so meticulously assembled, one can only be grateful for the mountain of heartfelt labor the book represents. In six hundred pages and over a thousand footnotes, Leverich follows Williams from Edwina Estelle Dakin's womb, through a febrile apprenticeship as

a writer and a human being, all the way to the triumphant opening of his autobiographical "memory play," *The Glass Menagerie*, in 1945.

Tom is only part one of Leverich's planned two-part biography — the second volume is slated for publication in three years — which is already being called definitive. The book has a built-in dramatic unity, serving as one big, long explication of the concise, poetic text of *Menagerie*. No one who has been moved by that play — and who has seen or read it and not been transformed? — will be indifferent to the details of what life was like for the real-life Amanda (Edwina), Laura (Rose) and Tom Wingfield (Tom Williams). Of course, this is also the stuff of much of the later plays.

Edwina, a strong-willed albeit high-strung survivor, comes off better — in biography as in life, and even in theater — than Rose, Tom's elder sister, who went the way of the mental institution. Edwina, a formidable "southern belle" of her own confection, indelibly rendered by Laurette Taylor in the original production and immortalized in Tennessee's dialogue, here speaks directly to us through letters. But Rose, when not lighted by the candles of her playwright brother's imagination, disappears into the maddeningly inaccessible inner reaches of her own reality — of which there are few material traces.

Leverich, a sympathetic and conscientious reporter, has made a collage of hearsay — drawing on letters, oral history and Tom's

journal — which owes too much to the taboo-fueled "etiquette" surrounding diseases of the mind, then and now. He declines to examine the family dynamic that created one self-actualizing genius and one tortured soul who abandoned, by increments, all hope of becoming a person in her own right. Rose remains the enigmatic silent partner of her brother's life

Continued on page 46



## Bitter Odyssey

*Something Cloudy, Something Clear* by Tennessee Williams; New Directions, \$19.95

by Jenni Olson

I've been waiting for this Tennessee Williams play ever since my (pre-coming out) sophomore year in college, when my (obviously gay) Humanities professor wanted to publish my mid-quarter analysis of the gay content in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Of course the paper wasn't really that great — a desperate grasp at a few gay straws. But hasn't that always been one of our favorite occupations: searching for gay meaning, subtext, hints, or codes in the works of all those old queer artists?



Tennessee Williams

This gay cultural agenda has long been disdained by our heterosexual colleagues — dismissed as irrelevant, prurient, and unnecessary. But in 1981 those same straight pundits were apparently floored by *Something Cloudy, Something Clear*, a Williams work so bursting with overt gay content (boy-watching, butt-fucking and joy rags) they just did not know what to do with it.

*Something Cloudy, Something Clear* was first produced at the Jean Cocteau Repertory in New York City in August, 1981. This beautiful hardcover edition of the play, just published by New Directions, features a thoughtful introduction by Eve Adamson, director of the Cocteau Repertory, who was also Williams' friend. Panned by the critics, this late work (written three years before the author's death in 1983) has languished in obscurity until now.

In this bittersweet, and clearly autobiographical, reflection on his first love affair (and his early career as a writer), Williams shifts easily and continually between his younger and older selves (the play is set in 1940 and 1980). *Something Cloudy* is a startling portrait of the artist as a pathetic, horny, self-loathing, alcoholic homosexual — as both a young and an old man. Mixing thinly-disguised fictional characters with figures from his own life (longtime companion Frank Merlo, childhood sweetheart Hazel, actress Tallulah Bankhead, and Kip Kiernan, his first lover), Williams renders a sad vision (at the same time a tender apologia) of himself and his relationships.

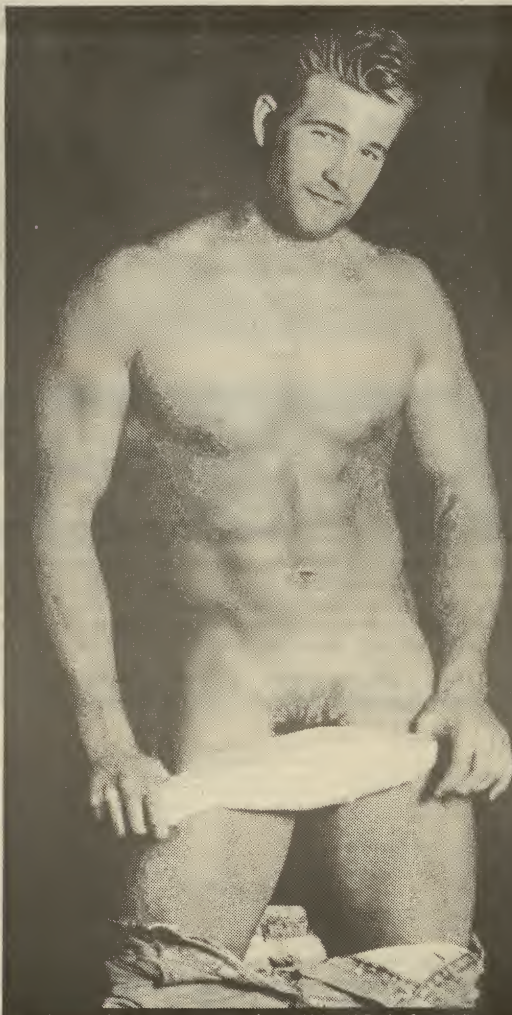
This human tragedy of mutual exploitation revolves around a dramatically crippled trio on a windy Provincetown beach — August, a young homosexual playwright, Clare, a terminally-ill chipper, and Kip, the innocent, doomed dancer they both adore.

While Clare struggles with her homophobic, gangster pimp, August fights off last night's foul-mouthed, drunken trick. At the center stands Kip, whom August lovingly describes as: "Doomed! How goddamn stupid it is to look at them with envy, the perfect ones, the ones that appear to be completely, completely flawless, the — perfect — with eyes like startled flowers ..."

August, phenomenally pathetic at 30, pursues the perfect Kip, pausing to reflect, "Was I that terrifying 40 years ago?"

After a rough start with a lot of irritating interrupted dialogue, Williams gives us some great moments of dry humor ("Go swim, go drown, I hope a shark eats you!") and wonderfully classic Tennessee dialogue ("Don't be too lonely tonight, spend it with somebody lovely. Goodbye. I mean au revoir. We'll make it together — we have to!"). It's not necessarily up there with *Streetcar* or *Glass Menagerie*, but I guess hearing August pick up a sailor (SEAMAN: "Tonight I'm too drunk to fuck you, kid." AUGUST: "I wouldn't dream of disputing the matter with you, Spud." SEAMAN: "So you can fuck me for another fin and a drink.") is some small consolation for his lineage of closet cases, pederasts, and subtle innuendos.

In the end, the characters of *Something Cloudy*, with their sad understanding of what Williams calls "the exigencies of desperation," have as much vivid depth, soul and pathetic dignity as Blanche DuBois. They play out their moments of cruelty and tenderness, spite and forgiveness — finally redeemed by human kindness, the clear overcoming the cloudy. ▼



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PARTING  
GLANCES

**Firefly Restaurant, Sunday, 12/10, 8pm, Raining**  
You were waiting for the bathroom. I was sitting close to the window with a friend. Then, you went back to your table, with a girl. Were you looking at me? I'm Asian in grey sweater, with glasses. You're a WM, medium-long wavy hair, carrying a helmet. I would like to meet you so I can officially introduce myself. ☎ 7903.

**18 & Castro Divisadero #24 Bus Stop Thursday, Dec. 7, 9:30am** We talked briefly. I mentioned RSVP. My bus came and I had to go. Me elderly giant, gray hair, moustache. You much younger and charming. So sorry I had to leave. We waved. Please call. ☎ 7902.

**Windmills**  
We met Sat Dec 2, 11:00am in Golden Gate Park. You from San Jose. Me from San Francisco. crowds to much for you would like to finish. ☎ 7904.

**Joe - Black House - 12/2/85**  
I still owe you for breakfast at Orphen Andy's. You're cute and sexy too (duh). call me so we can talk. I'd like to see you again. (nothing serious). ☎ 7905.

**Daddy's Friday Night 12/8**  
Bill. You used to live at St. Francis Place. We used to pass each other very early on the way to work. I didn't recognize you with the beard. Call me. Let's talk. ☎ 7938.

**Berkeley BART**  
Fata or coincidence? Who knows, but I love talk to you. You're the gorgeous man with dark hair, baseball hat, goatee. Two encounters in one night has me a little curious. ☎ 8001.

**Jim/Detour 12/9/85**  
We met briefly Saturday night. I would really like to get to know you better. How about dinner some time? Jonathan. ☎ 7901.

**14 Dec Mkt & Kearny 1pm**  
You gorgeous, gray hair sunglasses heading west on Mkt. Me: Brn hair, goatee heading east on Mkt w/ Macy's bag. Care to meet for coffee or tea? ☎ 8002.

**Mike Detour, Sat. 12/2**  
Had brief encounter. I am Mike also, would like to meet more than that. Please call. ☎ 8003.

**"Wet When Wet"**  
Jesus, you drive me nuts in that retro red speedo. When I saw you in the Koret showers and you took off your suit before swimming. I engaged. Let's stop staring and "get it on." (That's \*me being retro, too!) ☎ 8004.

**Asian Muscle Sister**  
Market street, usually late afternoons. You: approx. 5'5", late 30's, smooth, beautiful body & bubble butt. Me: GWM, 5'9", 170\*, balding brown, baby blue eyes, goatee. We connected once before, years ago, and it was great! Forgot your name, socially shy but otherwise very aggressive. Would love to climb on top and show you intense passion. ☎ 8005.

**Sunday Dec 17, 12:15 MUM**  
You had on black sweater and a beautiful smile. Me: blue/gray sweatshirt. Got off at Powell, regret not talking to you. Can I have a second chance? ☎ 8034.

**Santa Rosa**  
Friedman Bros, Friday 12/15. You tall cowboy w/ beard. Me: Older of couple. We stared. Let's meet. ☎ 8035.

**Ken Chicago RM '85**  
I got your card in Judy. You didn't say how to reach you. I will be in SF in early Jan and would love to get together. Dee from Madison. ☎ 8035.

**Sean/Shawn**  
Diamond St., Sunday 12/17, 2:00am. Enjoyed meeting you & the conversation in my car. Find you very attractive. Didn't exchange numbers - my mistake? Can we meet again - dinner or whatever suits you? ☎ 8043.

**12/18 - Walgreens Sutter Stockton Garage**  
You: 25-30, brown hair in navy blue coat - bought bottle of water. Me: Brown hair is tweed coat with red scarf. Saw you then at Sutter Stockton cashier in line. Wish I had said "hi." ☎ 8101.

**Met Cute BMW/SF 11/18 Etc.**  
Found a response in the system on 12/21, but blew the retrieval and didn't hear it. Will you try again? ☎ 8102.

**Midnite Sun, 12/18, 8pm**  
You: Jeans, orange plaid shirt, green jacket, brown hair, very cute. Me: Jean, leather jacket. To shy to say hi, followed you to cafe, know you saw me. Think you might be shy too. Let's not be. Call. ☎ 8103.

**Berkeley Bart**  
Fata on coincidence? Who knows. But I would like to talk. You're the gorgeous man with baseball cap, dark hair, goatee. Twice in one night has me curious. ☎ 8106.

**Van Ness Ave. Bus Stop At Market**  
You tall, handsome, eyes like the night sky. Me: Blind, blue, w/ a bag of cookies for a party Thu 19, 1995. We caught the 47 bus. I live in Dolores Heights. Hay baba the movie? ☎ 8107.

SEEKING  
RELATIONSHIP  
M-M

**Asian Boy-Man**  
Gdiking, cute, active, hip, fit, 5'8", 140\*, 20something, short hair, body piercing, easily amused. Appreciates honesty, creativity, kitsch, leisure time & beauty. Has too many interests to list. You're 20/30something, exciting, clever, confident & certainly doable. My taste in men is like my taste in art: universal & eclectic. Call to find out if there is mutual attraction & compatibility. The indolent & joyless need not respond. Talk to you soon! ☎ 7770.

**Down To Earth Gwm Seeks Same**  
I'm 29, 6'5", 200\*, br/bl, HIV-. I enjoy jazz, reading, and working out. Looking for a professional, stable, decent man, HIV- who enjoys just hanging out and low key evenings. ☎ 7906.

**Platonic, Slim, Retired Guy**  
Moustache, crew cut, 5'9", 150\*, HIV- seeks similar guy - no sex! Interests: Music, opera, politics, science, etc. smoke, bars in moderation. ☎ 7907.

**Exotic GW/BM**  
Looking for cute, young, loyal boy friend. I'm 32, 5'11", 190 all muscle, gdiking, athletic, masculine HIV+. ND. ☎ 7908.

**Seeking blonde Blue Eyed Guy**  
Bl/bl eyed guys turn this normally restrained guy to jello. My ideal man would be 22-30yo, 6', or taller, lean and smooth, and would love to kiss, hug end cuddle. ☎ 7909.

**Muscular Lover**  
This musc, masc, 28yo attractive BM is looking for a honest, caring, athletic, professional Gm that is also into working out, getting big, outdoors and hot sex. Looking for a possible relationship so please be serious, musc, under 33yo. ☎ 7910.

**38, Blond, Smooth, Fit, Romantic.**  
29 waist, good looks, seeks romantic, fit, out going, fun, guy who loves to make out, and wants to build on something deeper. HIV-, live in Oakland and love it! ☎ 7911.

**Handsome Smooth Skinned Asian**  
Guy, friendly, athletic is interested in receiving firm, full-body oil massages on a regular basis. I enjoy very long massages. Also enjoy being tied up and light S & M. ☎ 7912.

**River Phoenix Incarnation**  
Seeks generous gentleman for transfer of energy, love, massages, excitement unlimited! A brave, happy sun sets. ☎ 7913.

**Bear Seeks Muscle**  
GWM, 44, 235\*, hairy, rugged bear, lone wolf type with a soft spiritual interior, seeks beefy muscular guy 5'8"-6'2", intelligent, high-spirited with depth and a good heart, HIV-. ☎ 7914.

**Effeminate SF GWM Top**  
Sought by 100%, bottom, GWM, daddy type for girlish guys 25-44, LTR very possible. Like weekend smoke, drink, dining. I want to suck and get fucked. Me: Early 50's, 6', 210\*. ☎ 7915.

**ISO Boy Perfect Wanting Financial Support**  
In return for loyal companionship to 40, handsome, muscular man coming into obscene amount of money! You are 25 or younger, Int'l Male, Cult, Calvin Klein, Soleilflex type, top. This is for real!! Budding BB too! ☎ 7916.

**Wolf On A Fox hunt! Where's The Cute Boy Next Door**  
When you need him? Me: 38, 6'0", 205\*, br/hz, solid, stocky, goatee, man, hairy, prof, educ, masc top. ISO all-Amer. boy! UR 22-37, wht/his/aurasian, employed, educ, fox(gym boys, jocks, dancers), HIV+, healthy! NS, ND. Like blk tie 2 leather! Your cock size is unimportant! GR8 ass a must! I'm a bear at the Sun, not at the Lone Star! ☎ 7917.

**Last Chance Cafe GWM 42yo HIV-**  
Real secure, always honest, 5'4", 168\*, br/bl, low maint. Seeks non-agenda dates from conversation to LTR. SF magic is real. Smoke & drug free, any race, simple qualities, 30-45 best ages. ☎ 7918.

**Virgin**  
First timer placing an Ad. Hot, young, masculine, GWM, 33, looking for Mr. Right but will settle for Mr. Right Away. Not expecting a miracle but hoping for playmate. No freaks, please. ☎ 7919.

**I Grow Up**  
30, 6", 168\*, br/bl, ND, NS, not experienced in gay sex, HIV-, lean, fit, nice, like sports, travel, arts, new age, movies looking for 25-30yo man with same qualities for friendship, possible LTR. ☎ 7939.

**HIV+, Athlete's Social For Singles**  
Wanna meet hot, healthy, HIV+, gym boys that are single? We do exist! If you wish to meet, date, romance, or just play without fear, call to find out about this social. ☎ 7944.

**Physically Fit Asian**  
48, 5'9", 150\*, seeks similar clean-shaven, smooth, gym-toned WM for adventurous companion into hiking, sports, workouts, ethnic foods, arts, travel, and sensual pleasures. ☎ 7940.

**Best Foot Forward**  
GWM hoping to meet life partner. Self-awareness, compassion, and good communication essential. Terrific looks nice but not necessary. Me: 5'9", 40, 165\*, attractive, good shape. Foot play a must. ☎ 8037.

**Miscegenation**  
Japanese born, young 30's, 5'7", 135\*, handsome, long hair, beard, UC, sensitive, intelligent strong character, seeks similar act, bear type 25-45, no hard drugs. ☎ 8042.

**Sacramento Daddy Seeks Daddy**  
Tall, trim 200\*, masculine, bottom, Italian/handsome, young, 40's. W/LTM rugged! handsome top for play or relationship. I'm prof, HIV-, horny, bright, desirable, big heart/soul, dependable. ☎ 8044.

**European And Asian Men**  
Can be very disarming with their wry smile and dulcet vernacular. Let me turn the table and this Yankee might enchant you. Yankee is tall, hairy, 43, expressive, romantic and affectionate. ☎ 8045.

**Need A New Boyfriend?**  
WM, 52 (looks 30's), 5'11", 155\*, clean shaven, NS, ND, HIV-, looking for AM 25-35, short, slim, for long term monogamous relationship. Like 60's-80's music, theater, dining, travel, scuba, photography, movies, dancing, cats. Affectionate, loyal, marriage minded. Outstanding opportunity for the right person. ☎ 8046.

**Seeking A Top**  
Gay Latino Male, 25yo, 5'10", bottom 150\*, HIV+, healthy seeks a male who's a top HIV+, bwn 25 and 40, and who also lives in San Francisco. ☎ 8047.

**Are You Lone Too?**  
GWM, 41, 5'5", 130\*, seeking GWM to share quiet times, good companionship with. I enjoy good movies and good music and great food. Give me a call. It could be a new beginning for both of us. ☎ 8108.

**Fellatio 201+**  
World class artist looks beyond the dick to the head, the bigger the better. If you shoot a real mouthful, I want this elixir of life. Why keep me waiting? ☎ 8109.

**Really Great Guy Seeks Samel**  
I'm rugged, independent and reliable. UB2. A lusty bottom. I'm 35, 6', 190\*, HIV+, very attractive, with dik blonde hair, hazel eyes. I'm a fine artist/entrepreneur, a solid businessman. Love business, art, music, laughter and people. ☎ 8110.

**Looking For "Special Latin Male"**  
To come into my life for friendship, dating, possible relationship! Ebay, single, GWM, 44 (look younger) black br, hazel eyes, 5'10", 175\*, attractive, sensitive, humorous, friendly! Enjoy music, dancing, movies, the outdoors. You be 30-40, attractive, masculine, 5'8"-6'0", facial hair. (HIV-) ☎ 8111.

**Dad Bottom Wants SF Top Son**  
We GWM, HIV+, like dining, drinking, take, affection, movies, home times. Let's help each other survive as long as possible. Be romantic, love sex, responsible and caring. I am. ☎ 8112.

**Seeking HIV+ Lover/Friend/Son**  
55, Ital, 6'1", 210\*, HIV+, but healthy, handsome, masculine, versatile, clean shaven seeking GWM/GWM/GLM under no sexual prof of HIV status unimportant. Attitude and desire really count. Lets make 1996 our year! don't be lonely or shy! ☎ 8113.

**Seeking Friendship Or Relationship**  
Gdiking GWM(F), HIV-, romantic, loves to kiss, cuddle and hug, late 30's. Seeking a handsome GWM bet. ages 35 to 45 yrs., HIV-, good kisser, romantic and love to hug, w/ stache or goatee for sex, romance, friendship and long time monogamous relationship. ☎ 8114.

**Clayton Cowboy**  
Looking for LTR w/ another that loves 4x4's, horses, camping, blue collar type that knows honor, team work, and simple quality living. 25-35 GWM (bad boy looks but shy and humble at heart) NS, ND, HIV-. ☎ 8115.

**Inheritance Too?**  
Seeking one fellow GWM inheritor for monogamous LTR. Attractive, 33, 6'2", 170\* b/bl, lean, fit, HIV-. Co-interests: metaphysics, vegetarianism, right livelihood, weekend road trips. ☎ 8116.

**HIV, Nice Body, No Gut**  
Whether it's genes or the gym. Life has change, old friends are gone, new one's hard to find. Cruising, bars, parties are all some how part of yesterday. Looking for a steady guy, no pressure, sexually interesting. Me: Black, 5'10", 155\*, nice body, thin. ☎ 8117.

**Attractive Latino 24**  
I'm, 5'7", 168\*, dark skinned, masculine, clean cut, student, would like to meet Latins, whites, 21-35, for either just friendship or possible LTR. Prefer someone who is outgoing, extroverted humorous. ☎ 8118.

**Blond & Blue Boy Next-Door**  
You're an attractive, affluent, generous man who'd like a young intelligent, exceptionally good-looking college boy to fill your nights with passion and pleasure. ☎ 8119.

**Regular Guy**  
Ma: GWM, 6'2", 210\*, b/bl, 38, gym regular, versatile, slightly uninhibited, slightly voyeuristic, clean-cut & casual. You: GWM, GBM or GLM, 35-45, height, well prop, honest, fun an affectionate. ☎ 8120.

**Man to Man Relationship**  
Handsome, 38yo, WM, br/bl, 6'1", 170\*, muscular, masculine, active, out, athletic, creative, responsible, horny, hairy, all around country boy. you are also WM, fit, 25 to 40yo! See above. ☎ 8121.

**Visiting College Professor**  
GWM, 43, 5'7", 160, blue eyes, brown hair seeks a "son", GBM, 18-30, to spoil, pamper, and love. Share my interests in music, theater, fine dining, travel, and romantic evenings. Student a plus. ☎ 8122.

**GWM, HIV+, 31, 5'10", 165\***  
healthy, attractive, into tennis, sports, movies, romance. You: HIV+, healthy, attractive, athletic, masculine, versatile, honest & fun. ☎ 8123.

**Hot Hunky Hairy Dad Seeks Smooth Muscle Bottom**  
I'm 40, 5'11", 185, musc, masc, clean shaven attractive romantic. I seek a younger 30+ guy smooth, muscled for long term relationship. I'm a top, you know what you like! Try it. ☎ 8132.

**Surfer Dude Seeks Boyfriend**  
Extremely handsome, masculine GWM, 26, 6'3", 195\*, beautiful fat 9" cock, blonde eyes, tan, smooth, muscular, HIV-, seeks hunk with similar stats for sex, dating, possible relationship. ☎ 8133.

**1986: The Year Of The Husband**  
24yo, GWM, slim, blonde/blue, has made New Year's resolution to develop LTR for 1996 and beyond seeking mature, emotionally & financially stable man, handsome, intellectual. Also I'm HIV+, but full of life. You should be too. Bear encouraged. ☎ 8134.

**Fresh Start!**  
The new year is perfect time to meet new people. 25yo, gay, Filipino, fit, intelligent, good sense of humor and employed seeks GWM, mid 20's mid 30's, funny, active, energetic, smart and at times shy. ☎ 8135.

**East Bay Friend**  
Masculine, "goodlooking" bl BM, 6'2", 190\*, 40's, humorous seeks Asian, Latin or Black buddy for hot, safe fun. ☎ 8136.

**Older Seeks Younger**  
For on going in and out of bed friendship. I am healthy, fit, attr, romantic, GWM, 72, 5'8", 152\* and you are gdiking and under 40! Please no games unless in bed. ☎ 8137.

**I'm A Special Gift**  
I'm just the right person for a special gift. I'm HIV-, 40's, GWM, open minded, loving, caring. Looking for same GWM/GLM that will be there for each other. ☎ 8138.

**New Year**  
Last year I asked for someone special to share life with. This year I'm still looking. I would like to meet a GWM/GLM 30 to 45 HIV-, 40's, HIV-, GWM. SF only please. ☎ 8139.

**Prettyboy User Wants White Pushovers**  
I'm 24, experienced in the practice of using and abusing willing white men. You will buy me what I want and let me disrespect you and spank your ass til you ache. Must be reliable and obedient and all right looking. ☎ 8147.

SEEKING  
ADVENTURE  
M-M

**Mexican Sons Wanted**  
Hot, young Mexican sons wanted to service military dad. ☎ 7920.

**Discreet J/O Buddies**  
29yo, HIV-, Caribbean male, 5'11", 184\*, fashion mag, video model(model looks) seeks handsome, HIV- & straight acting & appearing as I am. Latins, Puerto Ricans & Blks 18-35 for hot JO scenes. ☎ 7921.

**One Night Only**  
Will have a hotel room at Oakland Airport on 12/21/95. Looking to meet very masculine, muscular top meet 30yrs for a night of fun. I'm 29yo, 5'9", 160\*, brn/gm. ☎ 7922.

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## BAR TALK

### Hefty, Big Men

GBM, 42, 5'11", 230\*, attractive, hung, searching for large, big fat and hefty men for romantic, sexual encounters. ☎ 7923.

### Slave Driver Wants White Slave

I'm a cute, youthful, gay, black slave driver looking for a white male slave to lick my royal body, come when I call; take me on little shopping sprees; and take me out when I want to go. Sincere white slave only! ☎ 7924.

### Romantic Aggressive Top

ISO horny submissive bottom 18-30yo. Me: Attrc, 5'10", 178\*, love hard hot sex w/ verbal bottom who needs it now. ☎ 7925.

### Sexy Young Butt

Cum, sit on my face, think of how I can pleasure you next. No recip necessary. I'm good and glding. Bring a buddy? Use me for your pleasure. Bi, straight welcome. ☎ 7926.

### Sex Party

Steamy safe sex parties monthly for hot, cute, in-shape guys 18-30. Men of all races welcome. Call for screening, and come play with the best looking guys in town. ☎ 7927.

### This Bottoms For You

GWM, 36, 5'7", 140\*. Looking for in shape top to fuck and spank my bubble butt. ☎ 7941.

### Over 55?

If you are over 55 and like to suck dick. I'm looking for you. I'm 48, GWM, nice cut dick, and very appreciative of good head. I'm HIV- Please leave phone #. ☎ 7928.

### Double Adventure

In shape, to versatile, 5'11", hung big, needs other men (20's-30's), well built, hairy body, with a big firm hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck. ☎ 7929.

### Like It Hot, Sweaty

Passionate, fun, intense, imaginative and a little bit kinky. Good looking bottom guy, 38, 5'8", 145\*, looking for handsome top. ☎ 7930.

### RU, Avg., Hung, But Gr8 Ass?

Bear on a fox hunt! I'm 38, GWM, 6'0", 205\*, br/hz, goatie, mod. hairy (chest & legs), tanned, solid, stocky, masc., handsome top. 7 1/2 cut. UR 22-36, wht/Lat, gym body, all-Amer. boy with gr8 ass, HIV+, healthy, ND, NS, pretty 2 handsome with strong sex drive! Most like black tie 2 leather. Tan lines & long hair a plus, a gr8 ass a must! ☎ 7931.

### Want To Play

Handsome top, 39, well built & hung. 8 1/2 seeks guy's 21-45 for sex play. If you like to please, are hat and want to have a good time, call. ☎ 7942.

### Blond Top Seeks Willing Bottoms

For sex fun, I am handsome hung and like to use my wand. You should be very willing to please in French and Greek and be available in the morning. ☎ 7943.

### Balding Or Thinning Hair?

I'm a 40yo HIV+, GWM, 6'2", 190\*, clean shaven short brown hair, green eyes which seeks a LTR with a 40-55, HIV+, professional GWM/GJM. I prefer balding or thinning hair men with mustache, extremely hairy chest and legs, big noses and large feet. No gym bunnies please. If this interest you, please call me. ☎ 8006.

### Tall, Thin Goth Guy Wants Date.

Know who Siouxsie is? 22, 6'1", green, black & cherry hair, pale & thin. Don't really fit Castro scene, obviously. Wants to meet another stable man who does not limit himself to a "look". I don't. Be around my age. Cheap date, movies, walks - too. Romantic for just one night. ☎ 8007.

### Latin Lover Wanted

Searching for a glding Latin top male who is healthy, HIV+, in-shape, fun, easy-going, sincere and honest. I am a glding boyish blond, blue eyes, 5'9", 160\*, healthy, HIV+, fair/smooth skin, avid bottom with a great smile. Call me, lets make a date. ☎ 8008.

### Seeks LTR SF GWM Top

For this 100% GWM bottom. We like romance, sex, outings, dinner, drinks weekends. We are healthy, responsible, caring, affectionate. Really want a monogamous man. Let's talk ☎ 8009.

### Wanted: Asian Or Latin Men

Very good looking GWM, 38, and HIV+, seeks other good looking (be for real), Asian or Latin, men who are HIV+, for friendship and more. I have short dark hair with mustache, blue eyes, and a smooth body. Good looking men between 28-40 only. ☎ 8010.

### GBM Needs GWM

Hot & handsome blk man, 30's, 5'11", masculine, good shape, facial hair, versatile. You should be the same for a great time. Leather types a plus. ☎ 8011.

### Just Moved From the Midwest

GAM, early 30's, 5'11", 175\*, intelligent, grounded, stable, NS, not a gym bunny, but work out. Enjoy clubbing, shopping, antiques, social events, dining out. Looking for a life partner, GWM, 30's-40's, 5' or taller, muscular, optional mustache. If you're interested leave a message. ☎ 8012.

### Young? Asian?

Do you like to be adored? This tall, fit, GWM is healthy, discreet, Fr/A, and ready to provide good, complete oral service all for you alone or with your buddies. ☎ 8019.

### You Bad Boy!

You fucked up! You broke your resolution! Get the spanking you deserve from an expert. Safe. Call now! ☎ 8022.

### Tops

#### Versatiles Wanted

Me: Attractive, masc, WM, 34, 5'8", 165\*, br/br, mustache. I'm versatile & adventurous. Vanilla to FF. I love to fuck. Be into ass play. Smooth boy types a+. ☎ 8020.

### Hot Latin Wants Hot Man

Me 5'11", 178\*, 7", cut, dk masc features, muscular body, HIV+, You like me or bigger. Ready to have me lick those big man balls & suck that fat dick, than flip over for you to fuck my Latin ass hole. ☎ 8023.

### Attention Hot Bottoms...

I want a man who is a total bottom, may be uncult and have a hot hairy ass for long hard poundings. Body and facial hair a plus. I can offer you 8 1/2 hot inches, thick and hard and waiting for you. HIV+ ok. ☎ 8024.

### 18-20 Bi Curious?

Are you 18-20 caucasian male? Horny for a M-M experience in private? Buffed, jocks, students, skaters a plus! 100% discreet. Porn videos & massage. 1st time ok. Call Ricky in SF near BART. ☎ 8040.

### Eager Mouth

Available for uncult big hung man. I'm WGM, 43, muscular, hairy, hung, and hungry for a big foreskin covered cock. I'm in Sonoma Co. Will travel for what I want. ☎ 8048.

### 37 Corbet

Tired of waiting for the 37 at Market & Castro. GWM will provide oral service to kinks who are HIV- & drug free. Just kick back after a long day or your workout at the gym. Please be under 45. No reciprocation necessary. Call - You can always catch the next bus. ☎ 8049.

### 21yo, ISO, Some Fun

21yo, GJM, College student, cute, 5'10", 210\*, rugby player, looking for 18-40yo, GWM/GJM, top, for hot sex, fun times & or a possible LTR. ☎ 8124.

### Cock Sucker

Hungry for dick. If you are masculine, stocky and can give verbal abuse and instruction I'll be on my knees. I'm very masculine, good looking, WM. One time or regular service. ☎ 8141.

### Aggressive Daddy Top

ISO boy bottom, 18-30yo who likes to service & play hard. You're attractive, horny, Me: 5'10", 178\*, hairy chest. Control you and make you yell for more. ☎ 8142.

### Super Hung Black Top Man

45, enjoys moustaches (but no other facial hair) for hot quickies at my place in the East Bay. Let's enjoy aroma, video, drink and my manhood. ☎ 8143.

### Voins, Voins, Voins

I really turn to guys with very very physiques, whether they're just thin, defined hard body, or muscle guys. Veiny biceps, veiny arms, veiny abdominal, veiny legs, veiny dicks. I'm sexually versatile and muscular. No drugs. ☎ 8144.

### F\*ck Master

If you're a thin muscle guy w/ defined biceps, veiny arms, and/or washboard abdominals. I'll plow your butt and take charge. All hole fantasies will be fulfilled. I'm 6'1", 165\*, 35yo, caucasian, muscular, very sexy chest, dark hair, dark eyes, dark mind, HIV+. ☎ 8145.

### J/O In Your Jeans

Into feeling up a guy's basket in his jeans (wearing briefs or boxers)? Into rubbing your basket against a guy's basket in jeans and shooting in your jeans? I'm a healthy, masculine, GWM, 35, 5'9", 145\*, dk hair, 'stache. Seeking similar type guy (age & body size). ☎ 7936.

### GBM, 40, 8", Top, HIV-

Ebay, seeks nasty ass boys who likes it wild and raunchy. I'm a freak for raunchy underwear and the ass that comes along w/ it. If your tall, slim or pretty closeted scat bottom w/ big balls, have I got an ass fucking for you. 18-35 Latino, BM, Ar, be discreet. ☎ 7937.

### Like Your Butt Sucked

Very hot ass eater seeks very verbal hairy assed facesitters into butt feeding on my rimseat. I'm glding, 38, 6'2", 165\*, wasp, buzzcut with big toilet seat stache. You: Facial hair, 30+, hot pig top heavy into rim jobs. Clean or not. Tops only. ☎ 8028.

### Relax

WM cut with big clean feet give yourself a xmas present. Get naked, let a sizzling 50's tongue work your feet and make you feel good. ☎ 8030.

### Rubber Man/Kink

Hot, very hung, 32yo, GWM, 6'3", 180\*, toned, ISO GWM into rubber, leather, plastic, hoods. UB ave looking, sexy, sane, in shape. I love oral sex wearing erotic gear. You? Call. ☎ 8029.

### Smokers Only

Smoking cigarettes or cigars before sex turns me on. If you like the same thing and are reasonable good looking, white or hispanic, give me a call. I'm a GWM, 6'; hairy chest, nice looking. ☎ 8031.

### Handsome blond Scat Top Exhibitionist

Seeks well-built, good looking guy aged 18-32 willing to be a scat bottom in front of one or more people. If you're hungry, you'll definitely want me to feed you. ☎ 8032.

### Foot

#### Footgear Slave

Young looking 48yo, HIV-. Hairy sincere feet love seeks men with hot feet. I want to crawl, lick, kiss & worship your feet & be your hairy foot stool. Ebay masters preferred. ☎ 8050.

### FFB/Vers

ISO experienced topman or versatiles for long, sweaty sessions to elbow. My ultimate goal is to ride over and elbow and also be able to get double fisted. HIV-, very handsome 45. ☎ 8051.

### Nice Guy Loves Barefoot

I have enjoyed lifelong excitement looking at and fantasizing about men's barefeet. I'm very aroused sexually and safe sexually by kissing, licking, smelling, and caressing barefeet in reciprocal action. JO. Glding Ebay, GWM, 5'8", 140\*, tan, bearded, HIV-, NA, ND. ☎ 8129.

### Asians Serviced

WM, late 40's, provides oral service for Asian cock, balls, tits, arm pits especially want to worship Asian with big cock. Muscular a plus. ☎ 8130.

### Slave Driver Needs Reliable White Slaves

I'm a cute, demanding, snobby, black nice slave driver. I like masculine or pushovers white male slaves. My slave will do what I want to do, and buy me things I want. I like to paddle his ass. Sincere, average or good looking only. ☎ 8148.

## OTHER

### Couple Seeking Extras

Hot versatile GWM couple 46/32 seeking 3rd, 4th, 5th, group. Especially seeking similar couple of tops to service us simultaneously. ☎ 8033.

### A Few Good Men

Do you like "doing it" in the day light? Me too. I'm 50yo, tall, healthy, HIV+, and into most things safe. You be similar and horny. ☎ 8041.

### Generous GWM

Seeks master into S&M, WS, and BD. ☎ 8131.

### Fucking Animal Needed Now!

Blond hair, blue eyed stud, 30, 5'10", 200\*, clean-cut, muscle hunk wants masculine/good looking men to top me. Call anytime. ☎ 8013.

### Hot Ass GAM

33, 5'8", 150\* sks top man for fun or more. ☎ 8021.

### Utah Good Looking Seeks Pen Pals

GWM, 32, 5'10", 165\*, br/br, works out, healthy, HIV+, travels to SF often. Enjoys outdoors, horse racing, movies, good conversation. Want to meet 24-34, slender, GWM, in shape. Let's meet. Looking for friends!! ☎ 8014.

### Daytime Head

Get sucked dry by tall, handsome dude. One time or regular basis. Morning or aft. You: Under 30, in shape. Cut dicks only! ☎ 8015.

### Chubby Chaser Wanted

35, GWM, seeks affectionate aggressive top. I enjoy Fr A/Pm Gr p and prefer hairy, beefy men 30+ yrs. ☎ 8016.

### Black Fuck Buddy Wanted

Ebay, GWM, 6', 155\*, HIV-. Wants to service your big cock and ass in all ways. ☎ 8017.

### A1 Oral Service Delivered

SF, GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. ☎ 8018.

### Bodybuilder Wanted

Big body builder wanted. The bigger the better. Top or bottom, cock size not important. I love big muscle & mutual butt pumping. Will make you squirm with my 8" hose. A wild ride you won't forget. ☎ 8025.

### Lay Back Enjoy

Close your eyes and let me caress your entire body with my tongue, lips and fingers. Let me make your body spasm with excitement. Must be drug free and HIV-. Prefer smooth body with dark hair but call even if that's not you. Call today. ☎ 8026.

### Sacramento

Bearded, in shape, GWM, loves to play guys with firm, hairy buns. Dicks over 8", face/body hair and muscles get me hard and horny. Day time is best. ☎ 8027.

### Seeking Masculine Bottoms

WM, 5'6", great shape, dark features, looking for attractive, masc, in shape black, Latin or white bottoms. I am in a relationship but need more sex. HIV+ but healthy. Must be discreet. ☎ 8038.

### Sonoma County

Discreet, 35yo, GWM, bottom, ISO muscular, hairy, tall, topman for regular encounters at my place. Discretion guaranteed. ☎ 8039.

### Berkeley Cock Sucker

Blowjobs for in shape white or Hispanic men, 18-60, cut or uncult by masc, attractive white in shape 39yo. ☎ 8125.

### Wanted: Asian Top Man

Great looking HIV- bottom GWM, 33, seeks healthy, good looking, Asian stud, 20-35, into safe frequent, intense encounters. Serious & sincere replies only. ☎ 8126.

### Attn to GBM, 42, Attracted to Hefty Big Men #7923

Stocky, attracted, masculine GWM, 41, HIV- would love to meet you but cannot contact to you directly as I currently have a 900 block on my phone. Please call me. Looking very much forward to hearing from you. ☎ 8129.

### Let's Do It

French and Greek talented dark skinned, bubble butt, blk bottom with small tits seeks masculine good looking horny Asian, black or Latin top. ☎ 8128.

### I'm Over 70 and Submissive

You're under 50 and dominant. Any race, color or sexual orientation if you're masculine, friendly, in good to great shape. No reciprocation, no hassle, just please the way you want it, for as long as you want it. Ebay (Berkeley) area. ☎ 8140.

### Thin Muscle Fuck Guys

My most intense and wanted sex fantasy involves thin, sinewy, muscle dick/fuck/flex/tit play. I want to explore sexual limits with thin hard body guys, tops and bottoms welcomed. You must enjoy fucking. Defined biceps, veiny arms, and/or defined abs major turn ons. ☎ 8146.

## FETISHES

### Hot Sex Costumes

Hung, GWM, 26, sks creative, visually oriented, horny guys who'll wear skimpy athletic gear, leather, other trashy outfits while posing, strutting, fantasizing. I have boots, belts, briefs, hats, ripped jeans, tight, shiny, basket-binding spandex pants. ☎ 7932.

### Hot Sex Costumes

Hung, GWM, 26, sks creative, visually oriented, horny guys who'll wear skimpy athletic gear, leather, other trashy outfits while posing, strutting, fantasizing. I have boots, belts, briefs, hats, ripped jeans, tight, shiny, basket-binding spandex pants. ☎ 7933.

### Tall Smartly Dressed 40yo GW Businessman

Eager to give or take humiliating, messy experiences using food & other sloppy substances (not scat) eggs, cream pies, paint & spankings particularly interesting but open to other scenes. ☎ 7934.



# THIS WEEK



## ▲ Wednesday

Cultural Odyssey presents **The Medea Project: Theater For Incarcerated Women in Buried Fire** at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre.

## Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week  
Bay Area Reporter  
395 9th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

## Friday 5

### Club nZinga

Global dance party, DJ Mongrel. \$5. 9pm-2am. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

### Into the White

Artists who work with white, including David Colon, Daniel Nicoletta, Kent Taylor and

Wise Fool Puppet Company. Thurs.-Sun. thru 1/7. Collision Galley, 417 14th St. 431-4074.

### A Language of Their Own

Chay Yew's play about love, loss and language among four young gay men. Thurs.-Sun. thru 2/4, tonight at 8pm. \$16-18. Asian American Theater, 403 Arguello. 751-2600.

### A Line Around the Block

Solo performer Marga Gomez returns in her off-Broadway bound spectacular. Wed.-Sun. thru 1/14. \$12-14. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Looking Back

Works by Michael Shanoski. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/12.

Mulligan-Shanoski Gallery, 747 Post. 771-0663.

### MACT Rap

Men of All Colors Together hosts a consciousness-raising rap on "The Good and Bad of Stereotypes." 7pm. 2nd fl. above Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 826-2968.

### Medea, the Musical

John Fisher's hybrid of Euripides and Busby Berkeley, performed by SassyMouth. \$20. Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 288pm thru 1/20. Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason. 436-0806.

### Mood Swings

A moody group show, incl. Felix Macnee, Mark Ulinickson, Jill McVarish. Reception tonight, 6pm. Thru 1/31. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

### Oscar Wilde:

"A Man of Great Importance," 30 artists interpret Wilde. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/6. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

### Points of Entry:

"Reframing America," seven European émigré photographers. Also: "S-21: Portraits from the Killing Fields," Khmer Rouge brutality. Tues.-Sun. thru 1/7. \$4. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

### Remembering the Way:

"Art of the Native Northwest" invitational group show, reception tonight, 5pm. Thru 3/30. American Indian Contemporary Arts, 685 Market, Suite 250. 495-7600.

### 3045

Installation by Charles Goldman: issues of home, self and agoraphobia. With "Betty Ramirez Was Here," paintings by Carolyn Castaño. Reception tonight, 6pm. Wed.-Sat. thru 2/2. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

### Wannabe

"A Girl Gang Invasion" directed by Kathi Georges. Fri. & Sat. thru 1/18. \$12-3pm. Marilyn Monroe Memorial Theatre, 96 Lafayette. 552-3034.

### Danny Williams, Maureen Brownsey

Stand-up comedy. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

## Saturday 6

### Carrie

Tony Vaguely and Sick and Twisted Players' version of the classic horror film. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/3. \$12-15. 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

### Gay Comedy Night

Danny Williams, Darrick Richardson, Scott Silverman. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Massour Auction

Beer bust, masseurs on the block, entertainment, benefits Paradigm/Enhancing Life Near Death. 8pm. SF Eagle, 398 12th St. 522-9192.

### Swingin' Utters

Plus the Hi-Fives and the Inciters. \$9 advance, \$10 door. 9pm. Rimbo's 365

Club, 1025 Columbus. 474-0365.

### Vocal and Organ Music

Concert by Roz Barak and Charles Rus, performing works by Altman, Schumann, more. Free. 5pm. Episcopal Church of St. John, 1661 15th St. 861-1436.

### Wild Design:

"Designs for the Wild," exhibit of fantastic yet practical designs for outdoor adventure, thru 4/16. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

## Sunday 7

### Amahl and the Night Visitors

Ina Chalis' production of Gian Carlo Menotti's one-act opera. \$10. 2pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez. 282-2317.

### Artists' City Walk

Gay & Lesbian Sierrans meet at 10am at bottom of Buena Vista Hill, Haight near Mission. Bring lunch, choice of medium. Heavy rain cancels.

### Dia de los Reyes

Coro Hispano de SF and Conjunto Nuevo Mundo, in concert. \$12. 4pm. St. John Vianney Church, 4601 Hyland. 431-4234.

### A Litany for Survival:

"The Life and Work of Audre Lorde," portrait of an eloquent poet. \$5.50. 2, 4, 7-15. 9:15pm. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

### Mazacote

Live salsa party. \$6. 4-8pm. Bahia Cabana, 1600 Market. 861-4202.

### A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Royal Shakespeare Company's landmark production of Shakespeare's reverie. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/3, call for times. Today at 3pm. \$25-55. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor at Market. 776-1999.

### New in Town

Trained facilitators help orient newcomers. 3pm. Lodestar Bookstore, 313 Noe. 759-1777.

### No Bottom Line

Dodie Bellamy's prose workshop: Erin Blackwell, Elizabeth Block, Alex Cory, Roberto Friedman, Kevin Killian, Alicia Wong read, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

## Monday 8

### Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Suzy Berger. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Girls and Boys Briefs

Lesbian and gay shorts, including David E. Johnston's "Life Saver" and Lizzie Donahue's "I became a Lesbian and So Can You." \$5.50. 7:15, 9:20pm. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

### Internat'l Character Toys

Exhibition of more than 100 toys depicting characters from cartoons, movies, TV, thru 4/15. International Terminal, SF Internat'l Airport. 761-0800.

### Naked

Five California artists explore the human figure, thru Jan. Naked Art Gallery, 355

Bryant, #110. 284-0567.

### Tribute to Peter Adair

Frameline presents the 1996 Frameline Award to SF independent filmmaker Adair; screening of "Word Is Out" and other career highlights. 7:30pm. Castro Theater. 703-8650.

### Wieland

Thick Description presents the world premiere of Erik Ehn's thriller, directed by Tony Kelly. Opens tonight, 8pm. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 1/21. \$12.50-16.50. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

## Tuesday 9

### Daddy and the Muscle Academy

Ippo Pohjola's documentary about Tom of Finland, the Norman Rockwell of gay erotica. Plays with "Pi(jain Truth)." \$5.50. 7:30, 9:15pm. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

### Gay Community Center

The Community Outreach Committee of the gay community center meets, 5:30pm. 2nd fl. Dept. of Public Health bldg., Polk & Grove. 241-1526.

### God Said, 'Ha!'

New solo performance by Julia Sweeney, ironic examination of family, love and death. Thurs.-Sun. thru 2/4, call for times. Tonight at 8:30pm. \$15. Magic Theatre, 81dg. D. Fort Mason. 441-8822.

### Love Is the Devil's Doormat

Installation by Elliott Linwood, with Thomas Eric Stanton's "I'm Singing My Father's Dreams." Tu.-Sat. thru 1/16. Morphos Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

### Picasso the Sculptor

First exhibition of Picasso's sculptures on the West Coast. Thru 3/10. Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

### Teapot Invitational

Artists including Bill Albright, Annette Corcoran, others, design teapots. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/27. Dorothy Weiss Gallery, 256 Sutter. 397-3611.

### Tendencies:

"New Art from Mexico City," eight young MC artists curated by Rubén Gallo. Tues.-Sun. thru 1/21. Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. 771-7020.

### Women With Balls

Showcase for women stand-up comics, every Tues. \$4. 8pm. Cat's Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

### Chay Yew

"A Language of Their Own" (see Fri.) playwright reads, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

## Wednesday 10

### Buried Fire

Cultural Odyssey presents The Medea Project: Theater For Incarcerated Women. Thru 1/21, call for times. \$15-20. 8pm. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter. 474-8800.

### Changes of Heart

West Coast premiere of Marivaux's 18th-century romantic comedy, adapted and directed by Stephen Wedworth. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/23, call for times. \$28-32.50. Berkeley Repertory

Theatre, 2 Berkeley.

### A Chorus

"Chinese American works of thru 2/25. Museum, 668-7500.

### A Calaf

American Homecoming benefits a fund. Call 834-3340.

### Caslight

A.C.T.'s production of Hamilton's classic. Tu. call for times. Stage Door Mason. 7

### Gay Sk

Rink full of skates. \$ rental. 8 Roller Rink Amplett 1-800-47

### The Hu

Nightclub primary presentation of movement of Grimm Tree. Op Thurs.-Sun. Intersection Valencia.

### Lugga

4th annual exhibition 1/31. The 1007 Ma

### Noe Cl

Symphony Howard NCS in M von der benefit AIDS Foun MQC/15

### Nothing

the Or "William History," chooses manent o thru 3/7. Mem'l M Park. 863

### Open A

Exhibit of Ken Miller's skinhead thru 1/13. Gallery, 2

### Three

"And Other Staszek A Difference 431-0891

### West

The music returns, 1 times. \$2 Theatre, 474-3800

### Thurs

Bingo Gay bing Home Ho \$12. Doc Redeem Diamond

### Eight

Sculpture eight cor African a thru 3/3. Arts, 701 978-ART

### An Eve

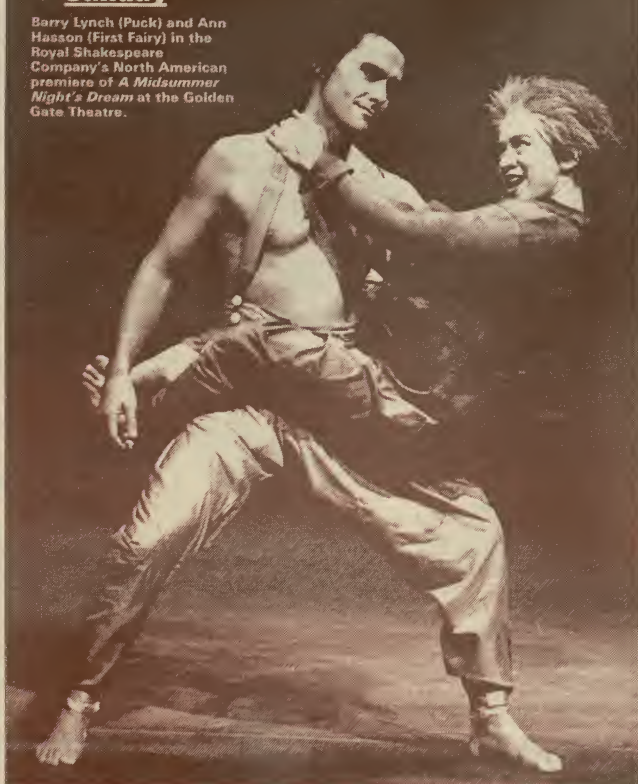
Exhibition dential at Wilson V SFMOMA 357-4000

### Inner

Photogra between

## ▼ Sunday

Barry Lynch (Puck) and Ann Hasson (First Fairy) in the Royal Shakespeare Company's North American premiere of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Golden Gate Theatre.





Theatre, 2025 Addison, Berkeley. (510) 845-4700.

**A Chorus of Colors**

"Chinese Glass from Three American Collections," rare works of glass. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/25. \$6. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 668-7855.

**A Galaxy on Geary**

American Conservatory Theater's Geary Theater Homecoming Celebration, benefits A.C.T.'s scholarship fund. Call for invitation. 834-3349.

**Gaslight**

A.C.T.'s production of Patrick Hamilton's suspense thriller classic. Tues.-Sun. thru 1/28, call for times. \$15-41. 8pm. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 749-2ACT.

**Gay Skate**

Rink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. 1-800-473-8658.

**The Hungry Tree**

Nightletter Theater, interdisciplinary performance ensemble presents a sculptural and movement-based adaptation of Grimm's "The Juniper Tree." Opens tonight at 8pm, Thurs.-Sun. thru 1/27. \$12. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 626-ARTS.

**Luggage Show**

4th annual juried visual art exhibition. Wed.-Sat. thru 1/31. The Luggage Store, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

**Noe Chamber Symphony**

Howard Hsu conducts the NCS in Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde*, proceeds to benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. \$15. 8pm. MQC/1150. Eureka. 648-1384.

**Nothing Lost from the Original:**

"William Wiley Looks at Art History," the California artist chooses works from the permanent collection. Wed.-Sun. thru 3/7. \$6. de Young Mem'l Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

**Open All Night**

Exhibit of photographs from Ken Miller's new collection: skinheads, addicts, whores, thru 1/13. Vision North Gallery, 2300 Polk. 474-4581.

**Three-Hand Jax**

"And Other Spells" author Staszek reads, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

**West Side Story**

The musical theater classic returns, thru 1/21, call for times. \$25-60. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market. 474-3800.

**Thursday 11**

**Bingo**

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. Doors 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 241-0425.

**Eight from South Africa**

Sculpture and painting by eight contemporary South African artists. Tues.-Sun. thru 3/3. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

**An Everyday Modernism**

Exhibition of the work of residential architect William Wilson Wurster. Thru 2/11. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

**Inner Vision**

Photographic collaboration between A. Ray and Trinette



**▲ Tuesday**

Julia Sweeney in a solo performance, *God Said, 'Ha!'* at the Magic Theatre.

Reed, thru Jan. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

**The Joy of Gay Sex**

John Fisher's debut musical comedy in a return engagement, Thurs. thru 1/18. \$20. 8pm. Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason. 436-0806.

**Maestro!**

Exhibition of thirty prints of internationally famous conductors by SF photographer Tom Zimmeroff. Tues.-Sat.

thru 3/23. Free. San Francisco Performing Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

**Mona Rogers in Person**

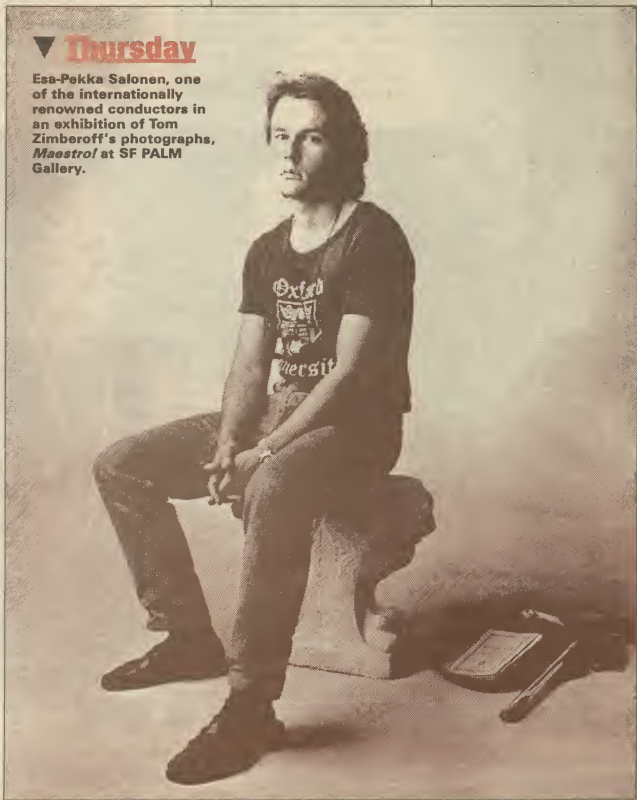
Helen Shumaker's solo performance in Philip Dimitri-Galas' play, extended thru 2/3. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm. \$16-18. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

**Rush Limbaugh in Night School**

Charlie Varon in an evening of satiric storytelling. Tonight & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 5pm. \$18. CenterStage, Osher Marin JCC, 200 N. San Pedro Rd., San Rafael. 479-2000.

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**▼ Thursday**

Esa-Pekka Salonen, one of the internationally renowned conductors in an exhibition of Tom Zimmeroff's photographs, *Maestro!* at SF PALM Gallery.

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MR. MARCUS

# 1996 - Year of the Rat

Well, you've had two full days to recover from what I hope was an auspicious ushering in of the new year. All around town hedonism prevailed. The new year has arrived and, hopefully, it will be a good one for everyone.

Though it doesn't start until February, Lunar Year 4694, the Year of the Rat, will be commemorated on a lavender-colored 32-cent postage stamp. I always knew we had a few queens in high places at the U.S. Post Office.

I'm wondering how many of you know that January 1 was the Feast of Circumcision? I don't know if it's supposed to be a day of celebration in gay circles or not, but if it is, I hope you got your share. And now as we slide inexorably toward the new millennium, debate rages as to whether we should celebrate the year 2000 or 2001. Does it really matter?

Now that my two-part year-end review is finished, it's time to get back in the swing of things, which includes, of course, serving up juicy dish, and believe me there's plenty of it to go around. On the leather front, communities all over are holding competitions to send men to the various city, state and regional trysts that will culminate in the 1996 International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago on Memorial Day weekend.

No matter what you may have heard around town, the producer of International Mr. Drummer 1996 has not, I repeat not, yet been selected. How tacky that a certain clerk in a certain leather store in San Francisco has been bragging that he is the Chosen One. It takes a lot of bucks to stage such an event and, well, we just don't think this certain clerk has what it takes. In fact, said clerk is allegedly — key word here is allegedly — \$800 in arrears to his own landlord!

And even as you read this, IML founder/producer Chuck Renslow in Chicago is perusing a long list of names in consideration for the judging panel next May. No final

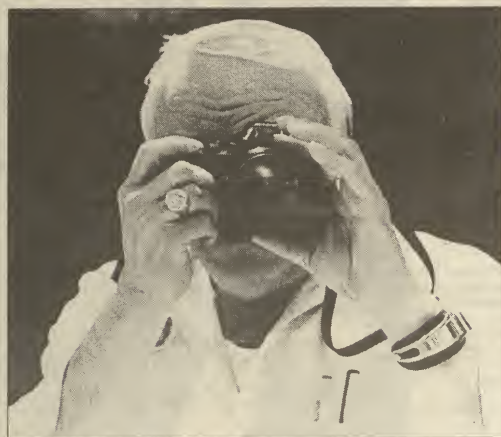


Photo: Victor Arimondi

Here's looking at you in 1996! Mr. Marcus and his trusty Nikon will continue to capture on film all the major leather events coming your way in '96.

decision has been made, but you'll be the first to know when the selection process has been completed.

Plans are underway already for the Mr. Leather of San Francisco contest, which will be held on either Saturday, April 13 or 20. If there are any would-be titleholders out there, now is the time to start gearing up for the competition.

As for Ms. SF Leather, if leatherwomen continue to play the isolationist role, there may not be a contest this year. And what a shame that would be. By the way, has anyone seen Ms. SF Leather, B.J. Ruthstrom lately? The Dyke Daddy and Dyke Mommy contests have been scheduled for Saturday, January 20 at the Eagle, thanks to Dyke Mommy Lady Hilary (see *Events in Leather* for details).

Now, what's this business about me "attacking" leatherwomen? I was shocked when I read this in one of the other rags. It's not true. I was merely attempt-

ing to get certain women in our ranks active and prideful again, as they have been in the past. If you feel that's an "attack," it's your own irrational opinion. Don't! You have a lot of nerve using the word "attack" when you're the one who regularly attacks people in your column who, in your opinion, don't do as much for the community as you think you do. Some people know when to step down, or aside, and don't require the continual stroking that you appear to need all the time. Makes one wonder if your supposed altruism is real or merely a disguise for an unnatural obsession with self-aggrandizement. You did it your way. Let the other leather titleholders do it their way. Harummmmmpppph!

### The Dishcovery Channel (Yes, there's more)

That princely stud among us who gets laid about three times a day and three times a night has



Photo: Ron Volant, Jr.

The 1995 IML winners (L. to R.): Al Reese (first runner-up); Larry Everett IML '95; Peter Schoonheim, second runner-up in Chicago last May. Aspirants to the title are already lining up for the 1996 competition in Chicago in May of '96.



# Eventures in Leather

All numbers are in the 415 area code unless otherwise indicated.

## Thursday, Jan. 4

Men of the 1996 Bare Chest Calendar will be at Daddy's (440 Castro) at 2000 tonight, signing and selling the calendar that you should all have by now. Sales benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund, so get one for your den/dungeon/rumpus room.

## Friday, Jan. 5

The Rubber Corps presents its first Rubber Fetish party of the year, from 2100 until 0200 the next day. Admission is \$10/\$8 for members. Your guest(s) must arrive with you. BYOB. No phone number furnished for inquiries/invites.

## Saturday, Jan. 6

Paradine hosts a beer bust at the SF-Eagle tonight, 2000-2300, with entertainment by singer Ted Fox. They didn't send me any other details.

## Sunday, Jan. 7

Leftovers: 1996 Bare Chest Calendar men who didn't get auctioned off for dinner dates in October go on the block today at the SF-Eagle beer bust, 1500-1800.

## Tuesday, Jan. 9

If you missed the Tom of Finland documentary, *Daddy & The Muscle Academy*, way back when, it's showing one more time tonight at the Red Vic Movie House (1727 Haight St.) at 1930 and again at 2115.

Admission is \$5.50; the film is 55 minutes long.

## Weekend, Jan. 11-15

Centaur MC celebrates its 26th anniversary and the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Contest in Washington, D.C., this weekend. All three host hotels are sold out; "contest-only" tickets are available at the door. Hordes of San Franciscans will be there for the festivities. You know I'll bring you the results and photos!

## Thursday, Jan. 11

Mr. January 1997 on the SoMa Bare Chest Calendar gets chosen at the Eagle tonight, starting at 2200. Win \$100 and help the AIDS Emergency Fund. The Bare Chest Chorus will perform, and ice cubes will be available for the non-perky among us.

## Friday, Jan. 12

Golden Gate Guards beer bust on the Eagle patio from 2000 to 2300. No details from the lame duck corresponding secretary who was last seen in New York's Times Square on New Year's Eve watching that really big ball getting lowered!

Storewide 10% to 60% sale at Stormy Leather begins today through Jan. 21. Erotic paintings by John Abrahamson have been hanging there since Dec. 30 and will be there until Feb. 2, so you can browse while you go over your credit card limit. Say hi to Kathy for me.

## Saturday, Jan. 13

The GDIs celebrate their 22nd anniversary tonight, 2000-2300, at the SF-Eagle, with access either by wearing your club overlay or having your invitation in hand. Congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

In Houston, they're picking the Second Ms. Gulf Coast Leather, but no details reached me at my deadline. Thanks "Shadow" for a fun year.

## Saturday, Jan. 20

Choosing Dyke Daddy and Dyke Mommy at the SF-Eagle tonight. That effervescent Lady Hilary, the current Dyke Mommy, has seized the opportunity to stage the \$7 beer bust, and the current Ms. San Jose Leather, Miranda, will emcee. Calvin and Bob from Sacramento will perform a fantasy. Isn't it strange that all these out-of-townners are doing this? Do you suppose Ms. SF Leather will show up? Where are SF's leather women? Hello out there!

## Thursday, Jan. 25

The Bare Chest contest at the Eagle tonight will pick Mr. February 1997 for next year's calendar. You can win \$100 painlessly and help out the AIDS Emergency Fund. Push 'em up and poke 'em out!

## Weekend, Jan. 26-28

Mr. Ohio Valley Leather '96 gets chosen during the weekend in Columbus, Ohio, with most of the action at the Columbus Eagle. Boy Toy Productions will produce. ▼

sworn to remain single, but after he recently broke up another marriage, he took the "spoils" home to meet Mama, who resides in some remote region of California. Now, I ask you, does this sound like someone who has sworn himself to bachelorhood from here to eternity? Oh, what tangled webs we weave, especially when we're in search of a good lay!

The January-February issue of *Bandana* magazine is out and guess who got it this time? The mag printed a letter from IML Larry Everett, and as is always the result in situations like this, the editorial comment (editors always get the last word) was equally tasty.

I also liked the way *Bandana* laid out a certain Boston title promoter via an interview with the 1994 American Cowboy! What?! You haven't been able to find the magazine locally? Go to your fave leather store and demand that they start carrying it immediately!

If you haven't seen *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, it's showing at 0215 in the morning on Saturday, January 5 on Showtime, which is free to cable subscribers January 5 through 7. Quick! Go buy some tapes for your VCR!

Just when you were becoming complacent about \$2 parking in that lot across the street from the Eagle, be advised that the rate is back up to \$5, a lovely Xmas present from the lot's new owners. The price adjustment is effective immediately. (I suggest we let "breeders" pay it, but use your own judgment.)

During my 10-city foray to coordinate all the regional Mr. Drummer contests last year, I wasn't too surprised that out there in the provinces, from whence come most aspirants to the Mr. Drummer title, three out of five stated that they thought Brian Dawson, Int'l. Mr. Drummer '89, was the epitome of a Drummer Man. Mr. Dawson was in our midst last



Bear magazine coverman Peter Greene was one of the hundreds of volunteers who turned out for the AIDS Emergency Fund Christmas Eve dinner at the Green Room last week.

weekend looking as spiffy as ever and still doing his thing down in Santa Ana. Rumor has it that he may appear at the Mr. San Francisco Leather contest here in April. Keep your fingers (and legs) crossed! He also issued a

great review of the new leather bar in Long Beach, Pistons. It's at 2020 E. Artesia Boulevard in Long Beach, if you're in the vicinity. The place is owned by a former San Francisco leather/uni-form dude. Tell him I sent you. ▼

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# Irreverent Homage to '70s Phenomenon

*That's Blaxploitation! Roots of the Badaasssss Tude (Rated X By an All-Whyte Jury)* by Darius James; St. Martin's Griffin, \$14.95

by Daniel Mangin

The latest from Darius James, also known as Dr. Snakeskin, pays idiosyncratic homage to one of '70s pop culture's greatest phenomena, the blaxploitation film. James looks at the black-produced originals and Hollywood's numerous attempts to cash in. He reflects on the genre's outside influences and interviews some of its major players, including Melvin Van Peebles, director of the seminal *Sweet Sweetback's Badaasssss Song*; Pam ("They call her Coffy... and she'll Cream you!") Grier; and Antonio Fargas, star of *Shaft*, *Car Wash*, *Across 110th Street* and many gems.

The tone of *That's Blaxploitation!* is nothing if not irreverent. And wholly self-referential: In his "Forewarning," the author says his book "attempts to recreate the nineteen-seventies by portraying the depraved state of one particular African-American adolescent: me." As James careens through the period, he offers some pithy observations about the deeper causes and effects of films from *Cooley High* to *Blacula* to *Superfly* to *The Mack*.

James calls the last two works the "defining films of the blaxploitation cycle[...]" the two films mentioned most frequently when I've discussed this project [his book] with other blacks. *Superfly*, the tale of a Harlem pusher (Ron O'Neal) out for one last score, was a huge hit. *The Mack*, which takes place in Oakland, is the tale of a young pimp (Max Julian).

"Nineteen-seventies America was infected with pimp fever," James declares. "Fuck *The Brady Bunch*." The pimp was a potent icon, "the modern urban trickster," whose significance went beyond mere entertainment for James and the companions of his youth:

"By our way of thinking, the whyte world created the language and conditions the resourceful hustler was forced to exploit. The racism rooted in the whyte man's language was an ugliness we

sought to appropriate, subvert and destroy through rhyme, wordplay and invention. The pimp was another yardstick, along with the drug dealer and the revolutionary, against whom we measured our manhood. We were under no obligation to respect a world that did not respect us."

## Who came first?

*Sweet Sweetback*, in which director Van Peebles plays a stud on the lam from racist police, and *Shaft*, starring Richard Roundtree as the fabled detective, both released in 1971, are often cited as the first blaxploitation films. James disagrees. He dubs *Sweetback* "an indepen-

dent lineage is even trickier than James lets on. In some ways the cart could be said to have come before the horse. *Up Tight*, Jules Dassin's reworking of John Ford's *The Informer*, with Panther-like revolutionaries standing in for the Irish Republican Army, plays out like a textbook Hollywood co-optation. But the film, written by Dassin, Ruby Dee and Julian Mayfield, was released by Paramount in 1968, well ahead of *Slaughter* and most of the films James mentions. Clearly, things were already cooking in the '60s.

## Fred gets his share

If white folks like Arkoff made megabucks ripping off the instant black mythology the films represented, a few shrewd

African Americans scored as well. Fred "The Hammer" Williamson divined early on who made the money and how. He made a name for himself as an actor in *M\*A\*S\*H* and *Tell Me You Love Me*, Junie Moon, among other mainstream projects, before going on to producing, directing, and even writing films of his own. The strategy kept him employed long after the blaxploitation boom went bust and those who only acted found themselves out of work.

Though blaxploitation cinema contains much of sociological import, many of its pleasures, especially in retrospect, lie in their playful, often campy accoutrements: The flashy outfits of the title characters of *Superfly* or *Willie Dynamite*; the hair-pulling brawl when Pam Grier busts up a lesbian bar in *Foxy Brown*; the loony collaboration of Rosy Grier and Ray Milland in *The Thing With Two Heads* (the head of bigot Milland is grafted onto Grier's body); or the goings-on in *Penitentiary III* ("You haven't lived until you've experienced *Penitentiary III*'s hairless Tasmanian Devil — The Midnight Thud — at three o'clock in the morning on commercial Canadian television with a Labatt's hangover").

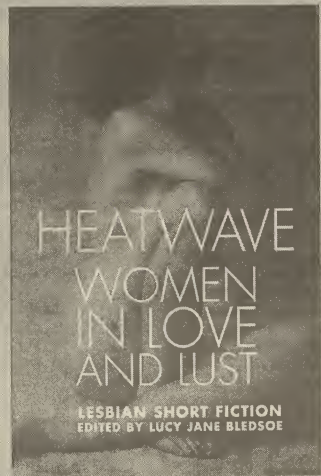
Whether one sees blaxploitation flicks as emblematic slices of American reality or bad (in every sense of the word) filmmaking at its best, *That's Blaxploitation!* enhances appreciation of the genre immeasurably. ▼



# Sizzling Sisters

In the tradition of *Bushfire* and *Afterglow* comes *Heatwave: Women in Love and Lust*, a new collection of lesbian erotica from Alyson Publications. *Heatwave* features passionate stories from some of the heavy-hitters in lesbian fiction today. The voices of the authors reflect what editor Lucy Jane Bledsoe calls "the bigness of lesbian eroticism, which is much more than what we do in bed."

What makes good erotica? What kind of erotica gets you hot? Is erotica political? What has changed in lesbian erotica in the past five years? These are just a few of the questions posed in *Heatwave*, whose all-star line-up of contributors include: Wendy Caster, who wrote *The Lesbian Sex Book*; Nisa Donnelly, author of *The Bar Stories: A Novel After All* and *The Love Songs of Phoenix Bay*; Jane Fuchter, who wrote *Crush* and *Promise Not to Tell*; Leslea Newman, author of 15 books, including *Heather Has Two Momnies* and *The Femme Mystique*; Tristan Taormino, co-editor of *Ritual Sex*; and Karen Tulchinsky, author of *In Her Nature* and many short stories, which have appeared in such publications as *Afterglow*, *Sister and Brother* and *The Femme Mystique*. Editor Bledsoe is the author of *Sweat: Stories and a Novella* and the novel *Working Parts*, to be published in 1996. ▼



# Tennessee

Continued from page 39

and work. For further insights, the reader must return to the plays, which repeatedly reenact her predicament — which Tennessee considered his own, only with a miraculously different outcome.

The character so conspicuously absent from *Menagerie*, who makes the proverbial bull's entrance into the family china shop, is Tom's father, Cornelius Coffin ("C. C.") Williams. A salesman with all the appetite for sex, booze and the road that Tom would later evince, C.C. also championed the conventional earmarks of success by which his poet son was initially judged so thorough a failure. That Tom, in becoming Tennessee Williams, managed to resolve the conflicting desires of his parents — a tension that was a constant in the household — is not incidental to his art, but is its *raison d'être*.

Another important factor is Williams' homosexuality. Leverich downplays his gayness, but does cite a journal entry from 1941 in which Tom recalls arguing with a homophobic gay

friend. He quotes himself calling queers some of the "most sensitive, humanitarian members" of society who "have made some unique contributions because of our unique position." He goes on to give his "deviation" pride of place in his artistic makeup:

*To feel some humiliation and a great deal of sorrow at times is inevitable. But feeling guilty is foolish. I am a deeper and warmer and kinder man for my deviation. More conscious of need in others, and what power I have to express the human heart must be in large part due to this circumstance.*

If anyone would learn how to turn their dysfunctional family history — and sexual perversions — into great writing, they have only to take note of Williams' almost single-minded pursuit of his muse. His youth is filled with poems, short stories, plays and endless rewrites. By the time he makes it to Broadway — and for those details we'll have to wait until 1998 — he is already a craftsman, an innovator and the greatest poetic advocate of the suffering heart ever to write for the stage. ▼

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# London Theater Season Offers Exceptional Roles for Divas

## Liz Ain't the Only Queen in London

by Will Shank

While Hollywood be-  
moans the lack of  
meaty roles for women  
and has to scrape for  
qualified candidates for Best Ac-  
tress at the Academy Awards, I am  
happy to report that the Age of the  
Actress is alive and well and liv-  
ing in London.

Among the divas appearing on  
stage during the extraordinary cur-  
rent theater season in London are  
Maggie Smith doing Edward  
Albee, Sian Phillips in Sond-  
heim's *A Little Night Music*, Fiona  
Shaw in the title role of *King  
Richard II*, and others too numer-  
ous to list.

One theatrical event is already  
a memory: I caught one of the last  
performances of Harold Pinter's  
*Old Times* (1970), starring Julie  
Christie, before Wyndham's The-  
atre made room for Albee's *Three  
Tall Women*. Christie is still a radi-  
ant, seemingly ageless, presence  
in her early 50s. (She was only 21  
when she played Lara in David  
Lean's *Doctor Zhivago*.) Surpris-  
ingly, this is only her second stage  
role, the first being over 20 years

funny; it may be Albee's best  
work since *Who's Afraid of Vir-  
ginia Woolf*? Smith and her two  
co-stars, Sara Kestelman and  
Samantha Bond, are superb as the  
embodiments of three ages of one  
woman's life.

Act Two, in which the three  
women compare notes on their  
shared life experiences, ends far  
too soon, and one longs for more  
of Albee's brilliant dialogue and  
insightful wit. As an American  
matron first at age 92, and later at  
70-something, Smith inhabits her  
character completely. At turns  
proper and outrageous, vulnerable  
and acerbic, she is a marvel to  
watch. The unexpected bile she  
spews over her unwillingness to  
accept her son's homosexuality  
takes the audience by surprise.  
Dame Maggie, almost 30 years  
after playing Miss Jean Brodie, is  
still in her prime, and the material  
Albee has given her to chew on is  
the *creme de la creme*.

Across the Thames at the  
Royal National Theatre, Fiona  
Shaw is holding court in the  
trouser role of Shakespeare's  
*Richard II* (1595). As directed by  
Deborah Warner, Shaw overcomes

the delicious roles of daughter and  
mother Desiree and Madame  
Armfeldt, played in the current  
staging with great aplomb by, re-  
spectively, Judi Dench and the  
magnificent Sian Phillips.

If both actresses are less than  
operatic as singers, and are con-  
stantly thrown into the musical  
shadow of their male co-stars,  
both make up for these deficien-  
cies by being perfectly cast.  
Dench has a romp as the lusty  
courtesan/actress Desiree. The  
buxom actress has been a fixture  
for decades in British theater and  
is a well-known face on T.V. here  
as well. It is America's loss that  
she is known abroad only as the  
romance novelist Eleanor Lavish  
in Merchant-Ivory's *A Room with  
a View*. But from the opening mo-  
ments of the play, when Phillips  
appears behind a white scrim and  
beneath a crystal chandelier, she  
and her cheekbones command the  
stage. Her imperiousness owes not  
a little to her memorable portrayal  
of Livia in *I Claudius*. (Desiree  
notes, in the book by Hugh  
Wheeler, that "Mother always  
wins our battles.") At a long din-  
ner table, Phillips, in her wheel-  
chair, faces the rest of the guests  
from the other side, where director  
Sean Mathias has placed her  
alone, like Jesus in a Renaissance  
fresco of the Last Supper. It's too  
bad the role is not a larger one, be-  
cause when grandma steps  
down from her throne to reminisce  
in sung soliloquy about her "li-  
aisons," or leaves her wheelchair  
behind to engage in a lyrical,  
wordless dance with her grand-



Patricia Hodge and Joanna Riding in *A Little Night Music*.

daughter, are magical indeed.

*Musical* is probably Sondheim's  
most popular creation. Based on  
Ingmar Bergman's film *Smiles of  
a Summer Night*, it became first a  
Harold Prince stage musical, then  
a film musical, and was adapted,  
loosely, by Woody Allen as *A Mid-  
summer's Night Sex Comedy*. Less  
cerebral than *Sunday in the Park  
with George*, less macabre than  
*Assassins* or *Sweeney Todd* (my  
personal favorite), it has some-  
thing for everyone, from rollick-  
ing fornication between servants  
to sexual intrigue among the prin-  
ciples, to the ever popular "Send  
in the Clowns" in the final act. The  
catty dialogue that ricochets from  
wife to mistress to wife at the lun-

cheon party scene rivals Cukor's  
*The Women* for barbs-per-minute.  
And the production at the Nation-  
al challenges *Sunset Boulevard*'s  
levitating set with its Swedish  
country house that frequently  
drops entirely out of sight beneath  
the 360-degree revolving stage.  
Reflecting its popularity, the mu-  
sical is sold out until well into  
1996, but if you're planning a trip  
to London, standing room is avail-  
able and well worth it. ▼

Will Shank is the Chief Con-  
servator of the San Francis-  
co Museum of Modern Art and  
an occasional critic. He  
is currently on loan to the  
Tate Gallery in London.



Maggie Smith in Edward Albee's *Three Tall Women*.

ago when she starred in  
Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* in New  
York.

Pinter is not everyone's idea of  
a good time, and the pregnant  
pauses hang heavily in *Old Times*,  
an enigmatic work that plays  
games with reality and illusion,  
past and present. Its theme of a  
married man who is devastated by  
the growing awareness of his  
wife's emotional attachment to an-  
other woman, seems, in the '90s,  
as dated in attitude as *Boys in the  
Band*. But under the direction of  
Lindy Davies, the three-member  
cast, including Leigh Lawson as  
the husband and Harriet Walter as  
the "other woman," is first-rate.  
And Christie is perfect as the  
blithe spirit, Kate. Perpetually  
smiling, or occasionally pouty, she  
is an ethereal child-woman, float-  
ing through her life — and her  
husband's — with a far-off gaze  
that makes her look, as Shaw  
wrote of his transformed Eliza  
Doolittle, "as if she had always  
lived in a flower garden."

### The unstoppable Mr. Albee

The redoubtable Maggie Smith  
appears as the most senior of the  
women in *Three Tall Women*  
(1991), which has returned to the  
West End for a replay with a new  
cast under the direction of Antho-  
ny Page after its triumph on  
Broadway. Despite some serious  
flaws, most notably a too-long  
first act, the play is ultimately  
moving, poignant and wickedly

the difficulties inherent in the  
challenges faced by any woman  
playing a man, from Mary Martin  
as Peter Pan to Julie Andrews as  
Victor/Victoria. Although she ap-  
pears to have dropped her voice  
almost an octave, she loses no re-  
sonance, and as the androgynous  
monarch she commands the stage  
from beginning to end. Best  
known in the U.S. as the savior of  
Daniel Day-Lewis' Christy in *My  
Left Foot*, Shaw is a dynamic force  
of nature in person, swinging  
wildly from childlike naïf to regal  
potentate. Director Warner makes  
some eccentric choices in this  
tragedy of the fallen monarch, for  
instance, when the King kisses  
several male actors passionately  
on the mouth; the liberties she  
takes by introducing such homo-  
erotic encounters into the Bard's  
script are left unexplained. Having  
a woman perform the act while  
dressed as a man adds further sex-  
ual confusion. Otherwise the play  
is riveting. The cast includes  
David Threlfall as a sexy and vil-  
lainous Bolingbroke. Among the  
superb supporting cast is the Gar-  
dener, played by character actor  
John McEnery.

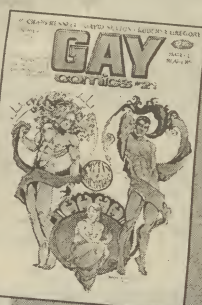
### Sondheim family saga revisited

Stephen Sondheim's now-clas-  
sic *A Little Night Music* (1973) is  
currently also in revival at the Na-  
tional. With the memory of the  
disastrous Liz Taylor movie ver-  
sion growing dim, many actresses  
have since faced the challenge of

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# Coming Out on Top

*The Topping Book, or, Getting Good at Being Bad* by Dossie Easton and Catherine A. Liszt (Illustrated by Fish); Greenery Press, \$11.95

by Robin Sweeney

**T**he *Topping Book, or, Getting Good at Being Bad*, written by Bay Area writers and S/M community members Dossie Easton and Catherine Liszt, is a gratifying follow-up to their earlier book, *The Bottoming Book, or, How to Get Terrible Things Done to You by Wonderful People*. This is a marvelous why-for book on being a top. In clear, concise and quite intimate language, Easton and Liszt take the reader by the hand and show him/her how to be the biggest, baddest and best S/M top possible. The illustrations by Fish are wonderful additions to the text, showing hot and real-looking tops at play.

The *Topping Book* is not about how to tie knots for rope bondage or give someone a technically perfect spanking. There are lots of those sorts of resources available, and, frankly, I don't think most people learn to be very interesting or exciting sex partners from reading a book. S/M, in particular, is the sort of erotic activity that is often best learned from seeing and doing. Easton and Liszt essentially agree with this perspective, and have designed *The Topping Book* for the reader who already has some basic experience with S/M.

It is also more difficult to talk about the reasons behind wanting to do S/M than the techniques involved. Like I said, this is a why-for book not a how-to. "Why would someone want to be a sadistic Daddy or play Nurse Nasty? How can I find someone to do this with me who won't just be a do-me bottom? Why does some of this kinky stuff turn me on and scare me at the same time?" *The Topping Book* answers those questions — and more.

#### Thanks for sharing

Easton and Liszt state good reasons to top (and a few good reasons *not* to), a top's list of

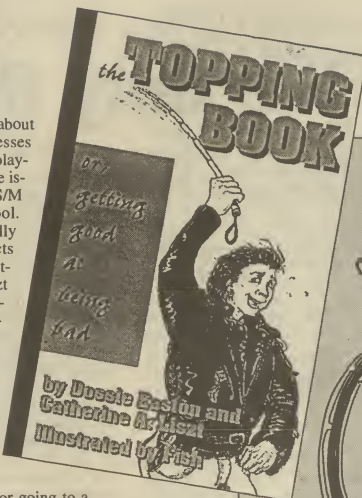
rights and responsibilities, ideas about what to do when something goes wrong, and several very good ideas about how to assemble a basic toy bag without going broke. They also share lots of anecdotes from their own lives and the lives of their friends, lovers and playmates that show the joys and frustrations of topping.

Easton recalls the first time she topped at a party: "I was flogging a woman I didn't know very well, and wasn't sure if it was okay to hit harder. I didn't want to interrupt the scene to ask, especially since there were people watching, and then I got a great idea. In my best mean voice, I growled, 'If you want me to hit you harder, you better get that ass up there where I can get at it!' And she did, and I did, and it was great." This opus is full of material like that — hot, funny, true and informative.

*The Topping Book* goes further

than most books about S/M, and addresses questions about playing with dark-side issues and using S/M as a ritual tool. These are vitally important aspects of S/M, and Easton and Liszt should be applauded for treating the practice as having the potential for being more than erotic fun.

Before maxing out your charge card to look like a "real" top or going to a play party and hoping you'll be able to figure out what to do, slip *The Topping Book* into your toy bag. It's well worth it. ▼



## The Young and the Restless

*Listen Up: Voices From the Next Feminist Generation* edited by Barbara Findlen; Seal Press, \$12.95

by Robin Sweeney

**L**isten Up: *Voices From the Next Feminist Generation*, an anthology of writing by younger feminist women, answers a lot of questions. Has the feminist movement made a difference to girls and younger women? Are there such creatures as young feminists? And what the heck is a feminist anyway?

Editor Barbara Findlen, the executive editor of *Ms.* magazine, has assembled 28 essays from a surprisingly diverse group. Starting with the challenge of defining a generation ("Generation X, thirteenth generation, twentysomething — whatever package you buy this age group in — one of the characteristics we're known for is

our disunity...," she says in her introduction), Findlen constructs a picture of what it's like to be a younger feminist today.

All the essays are highly intimate accounts of each woman's life and how feminism affects her. The personal approach of every essay is both the source of the book's appeal and its greatest weakness. It's difficult to believe that no feminist under 30 has written a theoretical essay not based on her own life, and it would have been nice to have included one or two. The lack of theory aside, the authors here tackle every issue that feminists might face today, from body image to AIDS.

Several of the authors, including Findlen, identify as lesbian. However, not many of them address the ways homophobia and feminism connect, unlike the very clear ways the authors who are women of color examine racism and feminism.

Sex seems to be missing from a great deal of the next feminist generation's agenda, except in terms of reproductive rights, rape and self-defense. Aisha Hakim-Dyck's "Reality Check" is about a college student who almost has to work as a go-go dancer and how demeaning sex work is. Apparently, truly sex-positive feminism hasn't totally caught up with the younger set.

#### Hillary and humor

Women who grew up in feminist households, playing Little League and reading *Free To Be, You and Me* and *Our Bodies, Our Selves*, tell their stories of putting into practice what they grew up believing. Ellen Neuborne relates in "Imagine My Surprise": "I thought that sexism was a remote experience, like the Depression. Gloria had taken care of all that in the seventies."

There is even humor in these pages, particularly in Alisa L.

Valdes' "Ruminations of a Feminist Aerobics Instructor": "What could be more frightening to men than a room full of capable, professional women moving together, in sync, unaware of anything but themselves and each other? Only Hillary Rodham Clinton and a truly lesbian orgy, perhaps."

*Listen Up* also includes essays from a number of women of color about how feminism does — and doesn't — address their needs. Sonja D. Curry-Johnson's remarkable essay, "Weaving an Identity Tapestry," explains how a "married, monogamous, feminist, Christian, African-American mother" creates an identity that balances all of her different selves.

*Listen Up: Voices From the Next Feminist Generation* serves as a great introduction to how younger feminist women are thinking about themselves and the world. ▼

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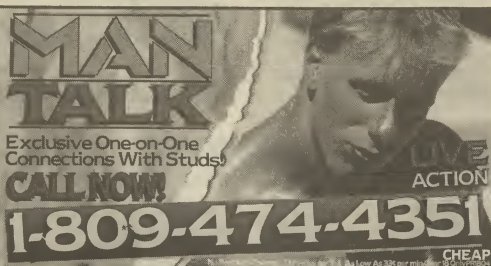
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**ERIC MASAO**  
**673-3662**

Sensual Msg, Escort  
 & More Hot Jack  
 Discount for 2 Clients  
**346-7975 Kevin**  
**Asian Dream**

**TREAT YOURSELF TO**  
**STRONG BODYWORK**  
 Enjoy a long & luxurious Swedish massage with  
 a strong, experienced professional. A wonderful  
 environment awaits you -- warm, clean, and  
 comfortable. Certified.  
**TOM LOMBARDO**  
**553-4073** **New Castro Location**

**E. BAY JOCK**  
 Italian, 5'11", 175lbs, Sensual  
 Nude Massage - 10am-9pm  
 Jonathan (510) 658-2437  
 Shiatsu and Swedish  
 Massage by a hot  
 young man. Experienced.  
 \$40 Out only  
 Pager #208-0146 Chris.

**DOUG - CMT**  
**661-4053**

Warm, Friendly, Healing  
 Kory \* 773-9130 \* Up Van Ness  
 Santa Rosa "On Call"  
 Indulge-Relax \* (707) 545-9745

**Colt Model**  
**European Masseur**  
 Strong, Therapeutic Touch  
 CMT, Non-Sexual  
 Albert **863-0499**  
 9 am to 9 pm  
**PALO ALTO**  
 Fullbody, \$40 Hr. Call:  
 Anthony, CMT (415) 813-1334

**PLEASURE IS YOURS**  
**MASSEUR** offers strong hands,  
 sensitive touch, warm studio.  
 Convenient Castro Location  
 Days and Evenings  
**TODD 415/861-9909**

**Out to Relax?**  
 Want someone  
 professional  
 and friendly?  
 I give a full  
 body massage  
 in the nude.  
 I am a Norwe-  
 gian man, 35,  
 Lt. bodybuilder  
 & swimmer,  
 handsome  
 & clean-cut.  
 Certified.  
 \$45 in. 24 hrs.  
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**Jim**  
**Masculine**  
**Touch**  
**864-2653**

**Steve Buck**  
 Deeply Relaxing, Sensual  
 Healing Massage.  
 Evenings and Weekends  
 Swedish, Shiatsu, Reiki  
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**¡Caliente!**  
**24 y.o., Super Handsome,**  
**Dreamboy Latino**  
**with Gymnast Build,**  
**5'5", 145 lbs.**  
**of Rock Hard Muscle!**  
**Certified in Switzerland**  
**Treat yourself to**  
**International Pampering!**  
**You deserve the best!**  
**\$40/60 Paco 487-9575**  
 \$30 Massage! 441-1054 Hot!

**Feel Great!**  
 Relax with an expert Swedish Esalen Massage  
**John, C.M.T.**  
 386-0152, \$35/hr., \$45/1-1/2 hour  
 Body Electric Graduate since 1986

**THE BIG ONE**  
 Big Man, Big Hands, Big -----  
 Deep, Nude, Fullbody Massage  
 by CMT \$45/60 Min. Near the  
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**Blonde Canadian**  
 A Touch of Class  
 Turn Your Fantasy into Reality!  
 Dynamite Massage for a Man  
 Who Demands Perfection!  
 Cathedral Hill Area \$45 in - \$60 out  
**Ron 922-3250**  
 Leaving San Francisco  
 This is Good Bye!

**Boat on the Wings of an Eagle**  
 & Relax in Bliss!  
 22, Athletic & Mysterious!  
 Swedish, Shiatsu,  
 Tantalizing Tenderness  
 & Deep Relaxation.  
 Nathan 24 Hrs. 487-7662

**Richard Light \$45**  
 Essential Oils,  
 Unscented Lotion,  
 Certified Acupressure,  
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**Non Sexual**  
 Market/Cuerrero  
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**THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE**  
 Swedish Deep Tissue  
 Non-Sexual \$35 hour  
**Don 415-752-7242**

**IN A HOLLY DAZE?**  
 Take a break  
**STRONG CONFIDENT CARING HANDS**  
 Full Body \$55 90 min.  
 Wyman 585-3146

**AFFORDABLE**  
**\$20 Therapeutic**  
**Non-Sexual Massage**  
 in San Bruno  
 by appt. 9am - 5pm  
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**Steve Buck**  
 Deeply Relaxing, Sensual  
 Healing Massage.  
 Evenings and Weekends  
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**Nude Swedish Massage**  
**SENSUOUS TOUCH**  
 Eric 564-6277  
**\$40/IN \$50/OUT**

**TOTAL RELEASE**  
 by  
**FRED OR BUTCHY**  
 \$35.00-90 MINUTES  
 CONCORD/WALNUT CREEK  
 (510) 682-5675

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**BUZZ**  
**CMT**

**PHYSICAL ATTRACTION**  
 V-handsome Scandinavian Man,  
 weight lifter, friendly,  
 blond/blue, 6', 200 lb.  
 Especially like small  
**Asian & Latin men.**  
 Erotic nude massage  
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**Integrative Massage**  
 Because Life  
 is Meant to  
 Feel Good.  
**Jim**  
**415 675-5669**  
**Noon - 9 pm**



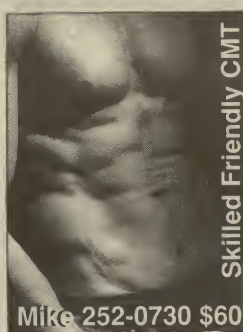
# MASSAGE



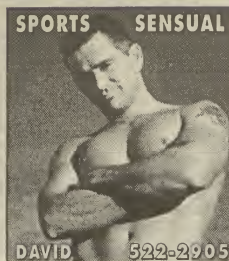
998-3754



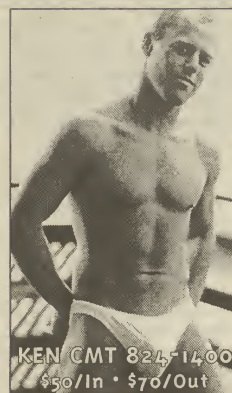
863-9290  
THERAPEUTIC • NURTURING  
MASSAGE BY DAVID



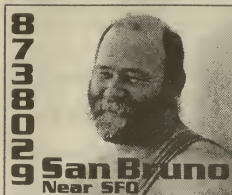
Skilled Friendly CMT  
Mike 252-0730 \$60



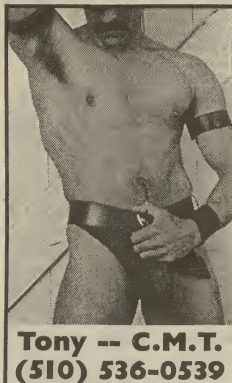
SPORTS SENSUAL  
DAVID 522-2905



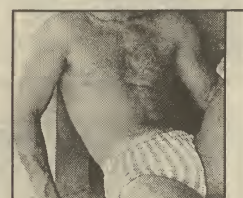
KEN CMT 824-1400  
\$50/In • \$70/Out



8738029 San Bruno  
Near SFO



Tony -- C.M.T.  
(510) 536-0539



Massage & Baths by Blond  
LET'S GET WET!!  
Greg • CMT • 346-1061



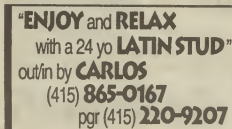
STRONG HANDS  
& CARING TOUCH  
Swedish / Esalen  
Enrique CMT.  
584-6170  
12-9pm



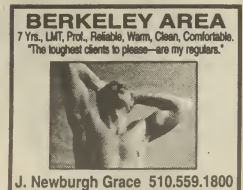
Strong Deep Tissue Massage  
Call Robert  
567-6015 / PGR. 548-8121



Great Full Body  
Massage  
By Caring and  
Sensitive CMT  
Deep, Gentle  
\$50 Jeff  
824-9119



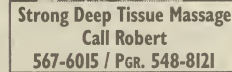
"ENJOY and RELAX  
with a 24 yo LATIN STUD"  
out/in by CARLOS  
(415) 865-0167  
pgr (415) 220-9207



BERKELEY AREA  
7 Yrs. LMT, Prof., Reliable, Warm, Clean, Comfortable.  
"The toughest clients to please—are my regulars."  
J. Newburgh Grace 510.559.1800



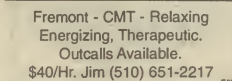
HOT  
Nude, Erotic & Swedish Massage  
No Nonsense Affair  
A Professional Man  
For Your Body and Head  
By A Handsome Man  
6'1", 210 lbs., Blond/Blu  
Sam 885-6379  
24 HRS.  
1st Timers Welcome



Strong Deep Tissue Massage  
Call Robert  
567-6015 / PGR. 548-8121



EAST BAY LAKE MERRITT  
RELAXING • SENSUAL • HEALING  
A Superb Massage by a  
Strong, Sensitive, Nurturing,  
CMT. Non-sexual, In/out.  
Jason Serinus  
510-444-4169



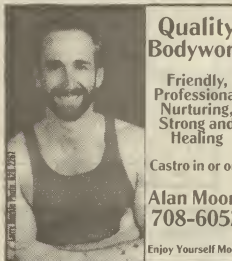
Fremont • CMT • Relaxing  
Energizing, Therapeutic.  
Outcalls Available.  
\$40/Hr. Jim (510) 651-2217



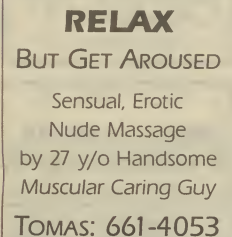
James CMT  
Relaxing Swedish Massage  
431-4619  
Professional Non-Sexual



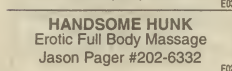
FUN LOVING  
GET WHAT YOU NEED!  
Swedish Deep-Tissue Sport  
In/Out Ken (415) 865-0385



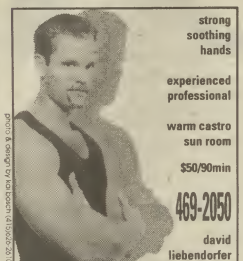
Quality Bodywork  
Friendly,  
Professional  
Nurturing,  
Strong and  
Healing  
Castro in or out  
Alan Moore  
708-6052  
Enjoy Yourself More!



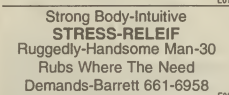
RELAX  
BUT GET AROUSED  
Sensual, Erotic  
Nude Massage  
by 27 y/o Handsome  
Muscular Caring Guy  
TOMAS: 661-4053



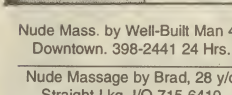
HANDSOME HUNK  
Erotic Full Body Massage  
Jason Pager #202-6332



strong  
soothing  
hands  
experienced  
professional  
warm castro  
sun room  
\$50/90min  
469-2050  
david  
liebendorfer



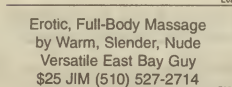
Strong Body-Intuitive  
STRESS-RELIEF  
Ruggedly-Handsome Man-30  
Rubs Where The Need  
Demands-Barrett 661-6958



Nude Mass. by Well-Built Man 42  
Downtown. 398-2441 24 Hrs.  
Nude Massage by Brad, 28 y/o  
Straight-Lgk. I/O 715-6410



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS  
TOP QUALITY FULL BODY MASSAGE  
AND SENSUOUS ECSTASY BY FRIENDLY,  
HANDSOME, WELL-BUILT ASIAN  
certified \$40/90 min. NR. SF Airport.  
Clean • Private • EZ Parking  
SHIN 415-985-5205



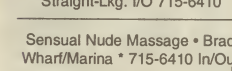
Erotic, Full-Body Massage  
by Warm, Slender, Nude  
Versatile East Bay Guy  
\$25 JIM (510) 527-2714



Hands You Can Trust  
COME MELT!  
Castro, Certified \$40  
Jim De Masseur • 621-4517



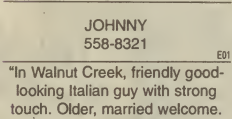
EXCELLENT MASSAGE  
by strong, sexy, 24 year-old  
Derek • 241-1553



Sensual Nude Massage • Brad  
Wharf/Marina • 715-6410 In/Out



DEEP  
Swedish Massage  
Private Studio 15th/Dolores  
\$45/1 hr \$60/1 1/2 hr - by advance appointment  
(Same Day Appointments \$60/hr \$80/1 1/2 hr)  
Tim CMT 861-6554



"In Walnut Creek, friendly good-  
looking Italian guy with strong  
touch. Older, married welcome.  
9am-9pm (510) 933-1749



Major SF Hotels • 24 Hours  
Brad • 715-6410 • Discreet  
Older & Large Men Welcome  
Any Race • 773-9130 • Kory



Sports Massage  
Treat yourself  
to a strong  
deep tissue  
massage by a  
professional,  
friendly CMT.



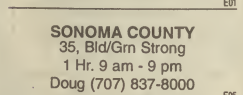
STRONG-SENSITIVE  
EAST BAY  
Swedish, Deep Tissue  
Certified Fit Gdkg Man  
\$45 Jim (510) 644-1625



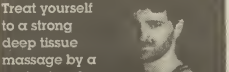
ALFREDO  
(510)  
534-7049  
SEXY ASIAN  
\$60 JIM 267-1817



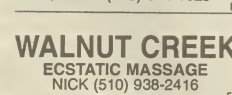
BODY  
ECSTASY  
Taivist Erotic  
Massage  
Sensual-Sacred-  
Supportive  
252-7100  
Discount PWAs  
Castro Location  
Jack Walder CMT



SONOMA COUNTY  
35, Bld/Gm Strong  
1 Hr. 9 am - 9 pm  
Doug (707) 837-8000



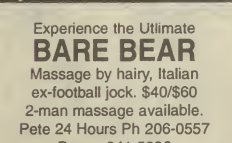
Swedish  
Acupressure  
Reflexology  
Scott White 552-5020



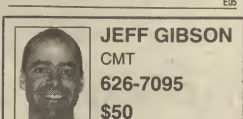
WALNUT CREEK  
ECSTATIC MASSAGE  
NICK (510) 938-2416



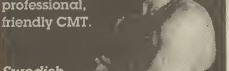
A TOUCH OF CLASS  
A RELAXING MASSAGE  
by a handsome, masculine blond,  
6', 190, beautifully nude  
muscular body, summer tan.  
Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage  
Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat it  
\$45/In \$60/Out 75 mins.  
Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.



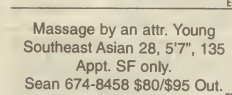
Experience the Ultimate  
BARE BEAR  
Massage by hairy, Italian  
ex-football jock. \$40/\$60  
2-man massage available.  
Pete 24 Hours Ph 206-0557  
Pager: 841-5836



JEFF GIBSON  
CMT  
626-7095  
\$50  
"I've had hundreds of massages  
before and yours is the best- the  
best of the best!"  
Joe Marchal, Olympic athlete



Swedish  
Acupressure  
Reflexology  
Scott White 552-5020



Massage by an attr. Young  
Southeast Asian 28, 5'7", 135  
Appt. SF only.  
Sean 674-8458 \$80/\$95 Out.

PAGE 52—BAY AREA REPORTER—January 4, 1996



## MASSAGE

**Genuine Sensitivity**  
Your muscles are the focus as the strength of 21 years of piano technique is combined with Swedish and Shiatsu Massage. There is a difference.

**Allen 252/9442**

**SENSUAL MASSAGE**  
Complete With Hot Tub  
Downy (415) 864-3777

Sensitive Soothing Touch.  
Prefer a mature man whose aim is to please & relax you. GWM 50 hot bath too. Out only page (415) 578-3479

Tight as a drum?  
Unwind with  
Shiatsu  
\$50/1 hr.  
Out only  
Scott, CMT  
668-6022

PHOTO AND DESIGN BY STEVE SAVAGE (415) 626-2610

**ASIAN TOUCH**  
Soothing and Relaxing  
Touch-Certified  
Call Alex  
351-1181 Pager 220-4623

Sensual Massage 522-2355  
**LATIN COLLEGE BOY**

**FOR ASIAN BOYS**  
In Contra Costa Ebay  
Full Hot Oil Body Massage  
By Muscular Friendly Guy  
Out \$35 (510) 676-1892

**sensual tantric massage**  
**swedish deep tissue**  
**zen shiatsu**  
**6'4" 160 ERIK CMT**  
**824-2667**

**MIKE**  
ULTIMATE SENSUAL MASSAGE  
0870-1199

**Healing Hands**  
Full-Body  
Deep-Tissue  
Swedish  
Massage  
10 am to  
Midnight

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**Mike In/Out**

Cute, Smooth, Tender  
**26Y/O ASIAN**  
In \$50. Out \$60  
**DAVE \* 749-0488**

**MIKE'S**  
**928-3199**  
**MASSAGE**

**EXCEPTIONAL**  
Professional, Attractive,  
Italian Masseur Delivers the  
Strength Sensitivity and Skill to  
Revive You.  
Outcalls John CMT 431-9419

**TOM**  
458-4217  
10 am-11pm  
**MARIN/SF**

**Shiatsu • Oil Massage • \$50**  
Michael Quintal, CMT 861-4472

**GREAT MASSAGE**  
Swedish  
Chinese  
\$45/hr  
by  
**ROBIN LEE**  
252-5832  
\*Holiday Gift  
Certificate  
Available

Erotic Full-Body Massage  
**RUSSIAN RIVER**  
By Sexy, Well-Built Stud  
\$40/In \* Bob \* (707) 865-2093

**ROCKRIDGE**  
Swedish/Energy recovery  
Michael - CMT - \$45 Hr.  
(510) 652-4354

**PROFESSIONAL**  
**MALE OF**  
**MASSAGE**  
By **DAVID** 457-5795

Photo Credit: RAM Studio 558-9564

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**BODYMECHANIC**

THERAPEUTIC  
MASSAGE  
AND  
FITNESS TRAINING

Keep your body in tune!

**Dan 567-9698**  
CPFT, CMT

**\* MID-PENINSULA \***  
6+ yrs exp. CMT, Great Hands  
In/Out, Tom, (415) 345-7318

Gregg (415) 436-9650. In/Out  
Complete Massage By Sex-y  
**BUFFED BLOND**  
Very Cute/Tan/Young/Fine!

Deep to Gentle Massage  
Complete Relief 621-7525

**SINK IN MY HOT TUB**  
Melt Under My Hands  
Healing Passionate Massage  
\*\*\*Ford\*\*\*543-0822

**MASSAGE**  
by **Latino**  
\$45-1 hour In  
(Call Back Required)  
Pager(415) 267-2605

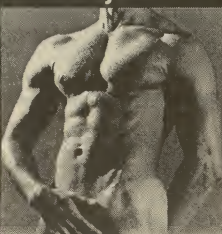
In-Shape 28y/o Erotic  
Massage Daniel 621-7525

**HEAVENLY HANDS**  
Heartfelt Erotic Massage  
26 yo 155lbs 5'11" attractive In/Out  
UPPER MARKET LOCATION  
**TIMOTHY B. 415.627.1743**

**DEEP MASSAGE**

Strong, muscular, exprncd  
CMT specializing in deep  
tissue gives phenomenal table  
massage in central  
location-healing environment  
Relax & Rejuvenate  
Call Jim at (415) 928-7646  
or 1-800-928-8974 (Pager)

**Everybody Needs**  
**Bodywork**



**This Body DOES**  
**Bodywork**

**Rick 415-621-2142**

## MODELS/ESCORTS

### 24HR HANDSOME

Prince will take your breath  
away! 22 y/o, affectionate lover  
massages & satisfies fetishes &  
fantasies. In/Out 487-7662

Spank & Paddling \* Kory  
Safe Fantasies \* 773-9130

Kicks Back for Service 24 Hrs  
**10"X6" UNCUT**  
Big, Fat Tool. Pager: 678-1005

**TOP DRAWER**  
Athletic Body, Handsome  
Face, Bulging Boxers  
Masculine 25 y/o \* 905-8838

Hot, Handsome Stud  
**THE 9X7 CLUB**  
Experience The Total Package  
Nice Body Great Personality.  
Dominate Top. 24hrs.  
Tony (415) 861-SEXX \$85.00

BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay  
Area. Ted \* (415) 459-3488

### EROTIC BLOND

6'1" 32 yo, lean & hot top  
24 Hrs \* 263-6726, Max !!!

\*\*\* Just Moved Here \*\*\*  
**18YEAR OLD**  
Punk Kid - Dyed Hair  
Toned, Thin Body, Fun &  
Hot. Page: 764-7296 In/Out  
Spanker Warms Buns 928-3199

Massage N Play, Handsome  
muscular 8 1/2 Italian When a  
man needs more \* 487-1959

Versatile Blond Boy, 29  
Tight, Smooth & Gym-Toned  
5'10", 155#, Hung 8X6  
Jake \* Page: 709-0338

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Big hangers, Great Butt  
6'2" Masculine Hairy Blond  
Open 24 Hrs. 861-5827

Private J/O Strip Show  
Rates adjust to time.  
10-15 minutes \$20 (In only)  
20-25 Min \$30 In \$50/Out  
30 Min. & Up: \$40 in \$60 Out  
Tall Lean, Hung MATT 552-7224  
Foot Fetish Bpr 834-8170

**HIRED MAN**  
6'4" 195# Blond/Blu Hairy  
Pretty Hose & Lug Nuts  
Luke \* 24 Hrs\*Pgr: 605-4013

**ITALIAN STUD - NEW AD.**  
Tight built, laid-back, lean  
smooth & Masculine. Best of All,  
Hung ... Like A Stallion!  
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Tit Nipple Pec Massage  
Relax\*Unwind\* 773-9130\*Kory

**20 Y/O ITALIAN BOY**  
Very Cute & Athletic  
Hot Butt and Body  
Pager: 837-9456

Football Uniform Fantasy  
Tall, Lean, Hung. Bpr: 834-8170

Distinguished Age 40  
Handsome Hung 8" & Thick  
\$60 \* DAVE \* 922-3924

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs  
**ASIAN TOP**  
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Hot Bottom Gets You Off  
5'11" 150# 8" Uncut 30 Y/O  
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Hot, Pierced, Tattooed  
Love Daddy \$80 487-7635

**DAVID**  
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**HUNG**  
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**HOT BLONDE!!**  
Sexy \* Young \* Hung \* Built  
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**A BIG BANG**  
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SEXY STUD-HOT BODY  
HUNG, 9x6, BL/BL, 6'1", 190  
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5'7", 135lbs, br/br swimmers  
Body, Perfect Butt Nice  
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Extremely Goodlooking  
**19 Y/O ASIAN**  
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**got**  
**throat?**


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# MODELS/ESCORTS

# B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

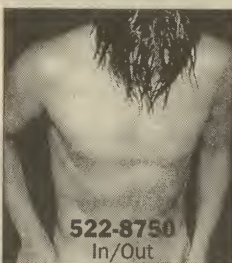
**Sexy Energy Without The Hype**  
compact torso great chest bubble butt



**Rick 487-1621**

**Attractive, Young BRAZILIAN**  
5'6", 145, 8x6" Uncut  
**Tom 280-4199**

**Excruating...**  
Short, muscular, 41 yr. old sadist, dominant and expert with secure bondage, and prolonged, imaginative genital torture.  
(415) **626-3034 Roger**

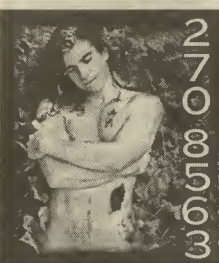


**522-8750**  
In/Out

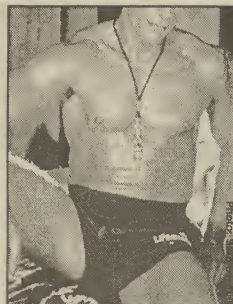
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-long, & slow- my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned master into all aspects & degrees of leatherplay.  
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.  
Lord 431-0959

**BUTCH LOOK**  
tall muscular  
big hairy pecs  
handsome hung 9  
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**FRAT MAN**  
Masculine, Horse-Hung Jock  
Athletic Build • Friendly  
Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting  
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9 X 7 Thick & Juicy Comfed  
Cowpole • Erik • 527-1156



**Blond German**  
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**UNCUT BIKERSTUD**  
Hung Big - Low Hangers.  
Handsome, Aggressive  
• **Topman!!!** •  
Built, Friendly, Dominant!  
Verbal, Open-Minded, 24 Hrs.  
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Style with Class  
"Man for all Seasons"  
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• Intellectual  
• Nice Tool  
• Smooth Body/Lots of Fun  
Aims for Perfection  
"Why Compromise?"  
Outcalls Only  
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Hot 23, Y/O Will Make You  
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"Blast" Your Way Into The  
New Year 800-376-BLOW 60+  
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**LONG HAIR LATINO**  
5'6" Inline skater w/ strong  
Legs, Smooth Skin, Tight Ass  
Affection, Conversation  
Ricardo 202-6843  
E01

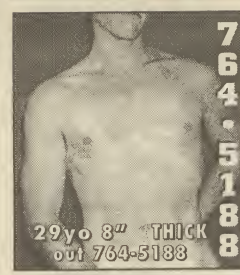
26, Ex-military  
**KINK PRIEST**  
Tall, Lean, Handsome  
Pierced Cock, Huge Loads  
W/S, B&D, FF, Role play  
Kal Page (415) 764-6627  
E02

**A YOUNG BOY**  
Is what you want. I'm 20, 5'6",  
smooth, slim, hung, & VERY cute.  
Tell me what to do.  
527-0083 \$150.  
E02

Best Lay - Low Pay  
**"Top" Secret**  
One of the Biggest and Best  
Butt-Busting Tools of the Trade  
**865-0144**



**KURT**  
6 ft 180 Br/Br 28 Yr  
Lightly Hairy Chest



**SEXY PUNK BOY**  
No Attitude  
8x6  
565-5545  
Keer  
E01

TALL, HOT, HAIRY, HAD SOME,  
HORSE-HUNG  
6'3"M, 195 LBS., BR/BLU  
BEEFY, LONG-LASTING STUD  
DAVID • 863-4847  
E04

Playguy Model Feb '96  
Rocky, 19, Smooth, Gym-Toned  
6' Tight, Def. Chest & Legs  
8" Uncut Yummy Ass 280-8002  
E01

**FUN LOVING TIME**  
Tender Gd Lkg Swimmer  
Bob 865-0385 Out Only  
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**YELLOW HANKY**  
Masc. 35 Y/O Top • 605-1383  
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**DADDY—S & M MASTER**  
Come to this secluded spot out in the country and  
surrender. Give yourself up to the power of masculine  
energy. Let yourself be dominated by an experienced and  
highly-trained master who knows what you want and  
will give it to you—slowly, sensuously, and powerfully.  
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Perfect Legs and Ass  
6'2" 8"  
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**THEN I'M THE ONE!**  
Hot guy next door treats you right!  
Br. hair, Br. eyed,  
Horsehung Top Studpoker. 24 Hrs.  
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**TIM 991-7907**  
Smooth, Cute Puerto Rican  
**18 Y/O SEX TOY**  
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E01

Sexy Goodlooking Tom  
**HOT ASIAN**  
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E02


New Year blahs?  
CALL NICK @ 605-1449  
Sexy, Cute, Fit, Hung, Top, Masculine  
**HOT BI-BOY**  
Start '96 "off" w/ a bang!  
E01

Wrestling & S/M  
Heavy - Light Fantasy  
Hot Switch - Kevlar  
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Hard Muscle, Shaved Head  
No Body Hair  
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Handsome, Masculine Top.  
Young, Athletic Type.  
All Levels Of Experience  
Sensual Fingers to Fists.  
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Dyed Hair, Slim, Toned Body,  
Fun & Hot.  
Page 764-7296 In/Out  
E01



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\$100 Out

**SKATER DUDE**  
Rad Bod Fresh Face 5'10", 7 1/2"  
Tight Athletic Clean Fun  
Lets Tear It Up! TJ 487-6276  
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**ORAL SLAVE**  
Hot Mouth, Deep Throat  
Available Day & Night: 12/28-1/2  
Available Eve & Wkends: 1/3-1/10  
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Pgr 496-0156  
E01

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Imaginative, Basic.  
Romance, Date? Jock,  
Much Better Looking In  
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"Absolute Perfection"  
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EXCLUSIVE MALE ESCORTS

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BLONDE BUFFED NORDIC GOD  
25 AWESOME TORSO 6' 180LBS

**MAX**  
HOT YOUNG ASIAN OF THAI DECENT  
BEAUTIFUL SMILE AND VERY SEXY!

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MASCULINE EURASIAN STUDBOY  
18 VERY ATHLETIC, GREAT LEGS  
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**CHAD**  
HOT HUNTINGTON BEACH SURFER  
22 BLONDE & BLUE GYM TONED & TAN

**REX MANN**  
HANDSOME, MASC.  
SENSUAL EUROSTYLE LOOK  
5'11" CHISELED FACE,  
TAN AND RIPPED 160LBS

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Hours: 10 am to 4 am

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## B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS




COLLEGE BOY

Tree tattoo on lower back

Italian  
College Boy  
Ray

674-8716

**BRYAN**




*sensual...*  
**DOMINANT**  
CALL per 560-9478

PHOTO: LARRY MURKALE 68-2987

Southern Beau Sweet & Sexy  
23y/o 5'8", Brn/Blu  
Safe Scenes Cuddly & Kinky  
Raleigh 436-9010

**Anthony**

Photo: RAM STUDIOS



6'2"  
8 1/2 x 6  
27 y.o.

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Serving all bay areas

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HARD!**

Very hot masculine 22, 6' tight  
muscular body hung big and fat.  
Mature men/hotel calls welcome

**Page Kurt @ 201-7189**  
(your no. plus 1) \$100 in/out

6'2", 175, 32, Stache/Goatee  
**I WANT YOUR ASS!**  
 Alex \* 626-2669 \* Evs \* \$80 <sup>ES</sup>

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6'2", 235 Lbs., Blk, BB, Super  
 Safe Exhíb Muscle Worship  
 52"C, 21"A, Mega Dk  
**11X8" 863-4847**  
 Or Dble Up With My Tall, Hry,  
 Hung, Buddie. Straight/Bi O.K. <sup>ES</sup>

**BLACKTOP**  
Safe \* Sane \* Respectful  
245-2557 - PAGER E01

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**18 YO WM**  
Calvin Klein Model Swimmers  
Body Hung Will Travel  
Call Bill (415) 333-4304 E01

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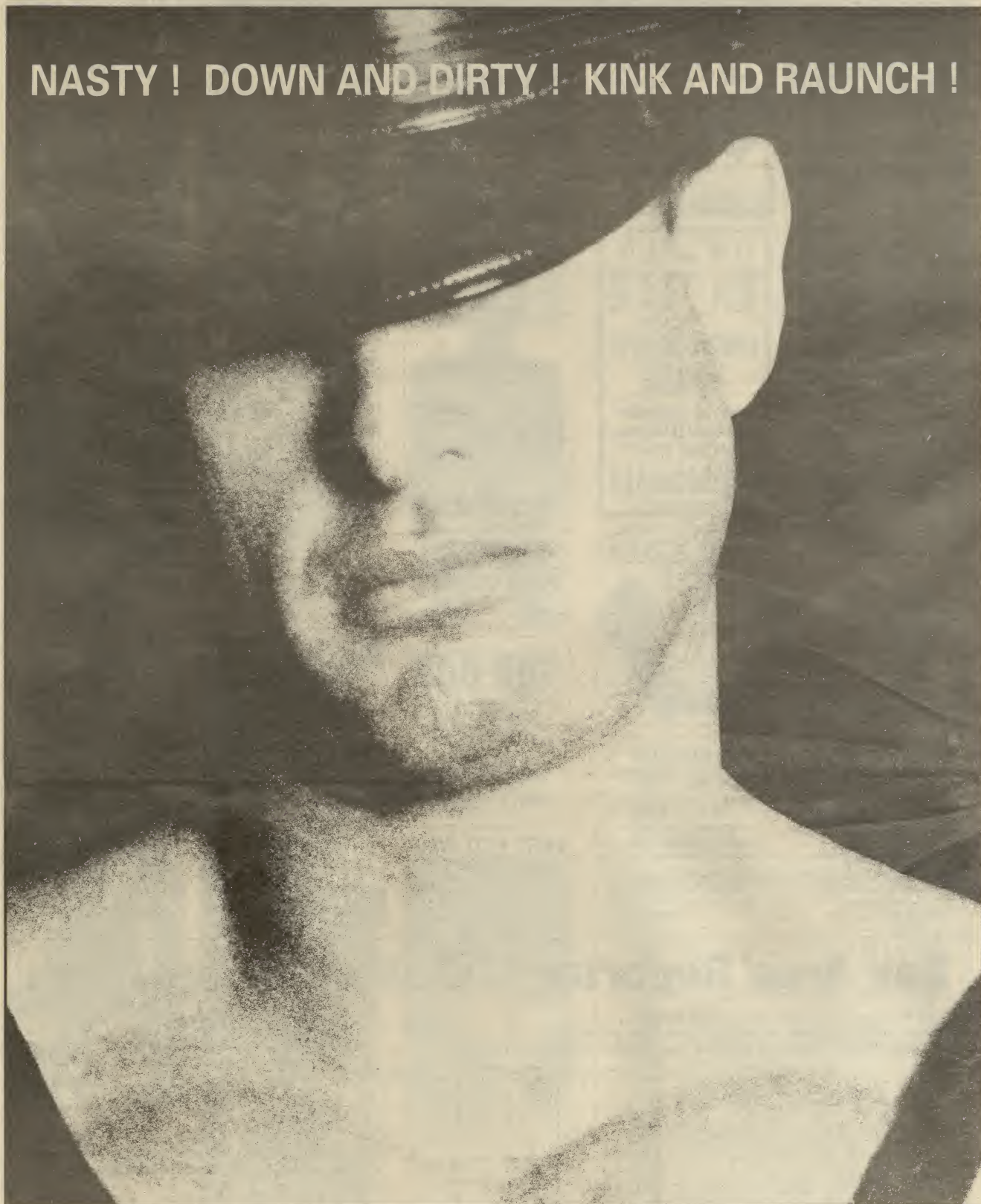
**BUTCHBOY**  
Kicks back w/ 8" & bubble butt  
21yo, br/bl, Pgr: 202-6346 E01

**VERY HOT W/ 9"**  
24yo masc youth  
New to SF Great  
Face and Body  
Smooth, Natural &  
Fun!! Chip 257-9382 \$100

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